

18th September, 2020



Dear Parent/Carer

Coronavirus update 24

Welcome to another update from St Margaret's, at the end of an unusually busy week. There have been three positive Coronavirus tests amongst the school community this week, but in two instances the individuals concerned were not on our site at the time when they were infectious. The number of staff and students self-isolating at the moment is therefore relatively small. However we will only be able to maintain a safe school environment if we follow the guidance. So:

- **if your child has Coronavirus symptoms, they should not attend school;** and
- **if anyone in your household is showing symptoms, the whole household must self-isolate.**

I attach a Guide for parents and carers which gives some more details.

Punctuality at school

The vast majority of students appear to have got to grips with their new start-time for school – well done! However, we're concerned that a number of Year 11 students are not arriving promptly in the large yard for the start of lessons at 8:35am: there's a risk that the extra teaching time we've put into the timetable (to facilitate catch-up) will be lost if students miss the start of lessons.

Visiting school

Our reception area is small, and now has a maximum capacity of 2 – so please do not come into reception unless you have a pre-arranged appointment; it's safer to 'phone or e-mail instead. We regret we aren't able to pass on items that students may have forgotten for the time being either.

Face-coverings (1)

Liverpool's Director of Public Health announced earlier this week that parents must wear a face-covering when dropping off, or picking up, children from school.

When dropping off or picking up children from school or childcare setting you **MUST** wear a face covering (unless you are exempt)

Failure to do this could result in schools and childcare settings being closed



Face-coverings (2)

As a result of the additional local Coronavirus restrictions announced today, and with effect from Monday (21st September), "*face coverings should be worn by adults (staff and visitors) and pupils when moving around indoors, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. ...[It] will not usually be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and they may inhibit teaching and learning*".

"Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings ...[eg] people who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability".

Further details can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education#where-local-restrictions-apply> – or please get in touch if you have any concerns.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Brierley
Principal.