

Thursday 20 January 2022

Dear families

**Face coverings at all Dixons Academies**

On 19 January, the Government announced that the requirement to wear face coverings in secondary schools will be dropped from 20 January.

As a Trust, we have made the decision to continue with the use of face coverings in our secondary academies for students and staff, and for our primary phase staff in communal areas. This is because COVID cases are still rising in the communities we serve, and we have high levels of student and staff absence which has resulted in a move to remote learning for some year groups.

We will work with the Local Authorities and Public Health England in our regions to review case numbers and hospital admissions to help us in our decision making.

Please ensure that your child attends their academy with a face covering and maintains good hygiene routines in relation to it. Academies will have spare face coverings to issue to students.

**Reminder**

Face coverings are just one further way of preventing the spread of COVID-19. Hand washing and the hygienic disposal of tissues continue to be of paramount importance. We ask that secondary and Post 16 students continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device tests (LFD) tests and staff to do the same.

**Vaccinations**

All eligible staff and students aged 12 and over can take up the vaccination offer including boosters. To book a vaccination, please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/>

Thank you for your continued support. We will continue to respond to guidance and local infection rate changes.

Yours sincerely

**Sir Nick Weller**  
CEO