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Dear Parent/ Carer

**Updated Guidance on Wearing of Face Masks**

We hope all our families and students are continuing to stay well and you are preparing for our school to re-open in September. You should, by now, have received our re-opening guidance booklet. A copy can also be found at this link: <http://tilecross.academy/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/TCA-Reopening-Information-v2.pdf>

You may have seen discussions in the news regarding face coverings in schools. Guidance was updated on Wednesday August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and was published by the Department for Education. It can be found through this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

At this time it will remain voluntary for students at Tile Cross to wear face coverings in school. This means students in all year groups can choose to wear face coverings in corridors and on the playgrounds at break and lunch. **All face coverings must be removed when entering classrooms and will not be allowed to be worn during lessons.** Face coverings in classrooms are not required as protective measures are already in place and they will inhibit learning and communication. **Face coverings must be plain in colour and can be in the form of a disposable or reusable cloth design. Patterned, personalised or offensive face coverings will not be allowed in school.** Face coverings cannot be provided by the school.



Example of a Disposable Face Covering



Example of a Plain Coloured Reusable Face Covering

Face coverings are only effective if they are used and handled in the correct way. **Safe wearing of face coverings requires sanitising and cleansing of hands before and after touching – including to remove or putting them on.** Between each use face coverings must be disposed of in bins or stored safely in individual, sealable plastic bags. Face coverings must never be shared. At the end of each day please ensure disposable face masks are thrown away in a bin and reusable masks are thoroughly washed and dried. **Please discuss with your child how to use face coverings correctly before their return.**

The wearing of face masks will become compulsory in corridors and on playgrounds at break and lunch if local restrictions are put in place. **We will keep you fully informed if this is required.**

All the measures outlined above and in our re-opening documentation are in place to ensure both students and staff remain safe. We require your full support in all measures we put in place.

We look forward to seeing our whole school community again in September and can't wait to welcome back our students to Tile Cross.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Marano – Headteacher