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13th September 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

Updated Guidance on new Birmingham Lockdown Restrictions

Thank you for your continued support in getting all pupils back into school safely over the past couple of weeks. All of us at Tile Cross are committed to providing the best education possible for your child, while securing the health and safety of our whole school community. Thank you for continuing to follow public health guidelines and encouraging your children to do the same.

You may have heard over the weekend that new lockdown restrictions have been announced for Birmingham. This means from Tuesday, Birmingham residents will not be able to mix with people they don't live with in their homes or gardens and across England only groups of six can meet outdoors. These new restrictions are coming into effect for Birmingham, Sandwell, and Solihull to reduce the coronavirus rates of infection which are continuing to rise.

As a school we have received confirmation from the DfE that we will be moving to Tier 1 in relation to local restrictions. This means Tile Cross will remain open to all pupils and students must attend school as normal.

It does mean however that from Tuesday 15th September it will now be **COMPULSORY** for students and staff at Tile Cross to wear face coverings in school. This means students in all year groups and staff **MUST** wear face coverings in corridors and on the playgrounds before and after school and at break and lunch. **All face coverings must continue to 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.**

REMEMBER: Students should not attend school if they have coronavirus symptoms or have tested positive in the last 7 days. It is important that all families follow our guidance carefully. All the measures outlined above and regarding attendance are in our re-opening documentation are in place to ensure both students and staff remain safe. A copy can also be found at this link: <http://tilecross.academy/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/TCA-Reopening-Information.pdf> **We require your full support in all measures we put in place and will keep you posted if restrictions change**

Thank you for your support in these challenging times. Please remember to follow both the school and public health guidance to keep everyone learning safely.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Marano – Headteacher