



# Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher and CEO of NEMAT: Rob James



27 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

There has been considerable media coverage linked to wearing face coverings in school. The most recent government statement follows the World Health Organisation (WHO) advice that “children aged 12 and over should wear a mask under the same conditions as adults, in particular when they cannot guarantee at least a 1-metre distance from others and there is widespread transmission in the area.”

As a result, the Government is revising its guidance on face coverings for staff and children in Year 7 or above in England. Nationwide, while the Government is not recommending face coverings are necessary, schools will have the discretion to require face coverings in communal areas if they believe that is right in their particular circumstances.

In addition, and consistent with WHO’s new advice, additional measures will be taken in areas where the transmission of the virus is high. In these areas, defined as areas of national government intervention and listed on gov.uk, the government’s guidance will state face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils in secondary schools when moving around the school, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. It will not be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and where they can inhibit learning.

Therefore, at the current time, students, if they wish, can wear a face covering when moving between lessons and during social time, but not in the lesson. This expectation may be changed if the rate of infection increases in our area based on public health advice.

If you and your child decide that they wish to wear a face covering, please sign and return the consent form at the end of this letter, either via email or when your child attends school for the first time, confirming that you have discussed the following guidance for the safe use and disposal of face coverings with your child and that your child understands this. The school does not accept any liability if your child does not use and dispose of their face covering safely. If your child requests to wear a face mask without your consent form, they will not be permitted to do so. If your child decides to wear a face covering it must be a plain colour and either a cotton or surgical mask.

“Working together, achieving together”

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form, Notley Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 1WY  
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Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form is an academy within the North Essex Multi-Academy Trust and a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 7687474). Registered office as above.





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If wearing a face covering children and adults should:

- wash hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on, and after removing it;
- when wearing a face covering, avoid touching the face or face covering, to avoid contamination with germs from hands;
- change the face covering if it becomes damp or if it has been touched;
- continue to wash hands regularly;
- change and wash the face covering daily;
- if the material is washable, wash in line with manufacturer's instructions after each use. If it's not washable, dispose of it carefully with domestic waste;
- practise social distancing wherever possible;

Yours faithfully

Mr R James  
CEO/Executive Headteacher

Dr C Cusick  
Head of School

Name: ..... Tutor Group :.....

I consent to my child ..... wearing a face covering in school and confirm that I have discussed the guidance for the safe use and disposal of face coverings with my child and that they understand this guidance.

I accept that the school does not accept any liability if my child does not use and dispose of their face covering safely.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

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