

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

## Re: Face Masks (Coverings) in School

As you may be aware, the Government has amended its guidance on the use of face coverings in schools, noting that from 17 May face coverings will no longer be required for pupils and staff in classrooms. However, the reintroduction of face coverings in this context may be advised should any school be affected by a localised outbreak of COVID-19, including variants of concern.

Governors acknowledge that a number of staff and pupils would prefer to continue to wear their face mask and so from 17 May the wearing of face masks in classrooms at Springfield will be optional and supported.

The school will continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff, visitors and pupils in situations where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in busy corridors and communal areas). We would, therefore, value your ongoing support in ensuring that your child continues to bring an appropriate face mask to school and a sealable plastic bag in which to keep it. This will be kept under continuous review as guidance and circumstances progress.

As is the case now, pupils who are exempt from wearing a face mask (for example, due to a medical need) do not need to wear one, but must take responsibility for ensuring that they have their exemption badge and lanyard with them. Kindly note also that young people over the age of 11 must still wear a face covering on public transport. All other systems of control remain in place in the school.

Yours sincerely

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Ms S F Spivey CEO, Headteacher

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