

11 May 2021

Dear students, parents and carers,

COVID-19 update

I am sure that many of you will have heard the Prime Minister confirm the move to the next stage out of restrictions yesterday afternoon.

In summary the changes for Weald of Kent, from Monday 17 May 2021, are:

- Students are no longer required to wear face masks in school
- Staff are no longer required to wear face masks in lessons, although must still do so in communal areas
- *The guidance does indicate that this could be reversed in the event of a local outbreak*

All other aspects of our risk assessment will remain unchanged, meaning:

- Student bubbles are to be continued, including the use of resources within bubbles
- Lockers will remain out of use
- Food collection areas will remain in place for specific year groups
- Staff will continue to teach 'from the box'
- Students continue to wear PE kit on the day they have PE
- Masks must still be worn on public transport for everyone aged 11 and over
- Rooms must be ventilated, with doors kept open
- Lateral Flow Testing, twice weekly, at home is to continue
- We will continue to introduce clubs, within bubble restrictions

If you would like to review the new guidance, please click [here](#). For face mask information, click [here](#) and to view our updated whole school risk assessment please click [here](#).

The Prime Minister also confirmed there will be a further review before the end of the academic year in June in relation to the remaining restrictions. On this basis we will continue to plan our sports day in the hope of being able to invite parents and carers to join us on that day. Do pencil Friday 16 July 2021 into your diaries.

As we move towards the prospect of life without restrictions, we are reviewing the changes we have established this year and last to ensure we are able to capture and retain the positives from this experience. We will be sending out a survey to students; parents and carers; and staff to consult on our options moving forward. Thank you in advance for your feedback and participation in this over the coming weeks.

As always, thank you for your continued hard work, resilience and support.

Yours sincerely,



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Headteacher

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