

17 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Tier 1: National Restrictions

Today, the government has announced that County Durham is now classed as an 'Area of Intervention'. Therefore, in line with government guidance, from tomorrow: **Friday 18th September, all students and staff must wear a face covering** in indoor communal areas, during break, lunchtimes and whilst moving around the school. It will not be necessary for students to wear a face covering in classrooms. When not being used, face coverings should be stored in a clear plastic bag.

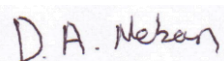
Face coverings must be used safely and sensibly and disposed of appropriately. Please watch the World Health Organisation video below if you require any further information about using a face covering safely. We would appreciate it, if you would take some time to talk through it with your child.

Any incidents of poor or inappropriate behaviour involving PPE will be dealt with in-line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

I recognise that some children will be unable to wear a face covering due to medical issues, a number of parents have already indicated this to the Academy. If this affects your child and you have not yet contacted us, please contact the Academy directly at: enquiries@deneacademy.org.uk.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and understanding at this difficult time. As further information becomes available I will ensure our Facebook account and website are updated.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D A Nelson
Headteacher.

FAQ: Face Coverings in Educational Settings.

Where exactly will my child need to wear it in school?

Your child must wear their face covering whilst moving round the inside of the school. This includes corridors and break and lunchtime spaces. They won't need to wear it outside or in their classrooms. Please watch the World Health Organisation [video](#) with your child so they know how to wear their face covering safely.

What will my child need?

We would recommend a reusable face covering. This is so they can use it more than once. It is important that when your child is not wearing their mask they keep it safe and clean plastic bag.

How should my child use their face covering?

- Their face covering needs to cover their nose and mouth when they're wearing it.
- They should not touch the front of their face covering or the part that's touching their mouth or nose
- They should wash their hands before and after touching their face covering, including to take it off or put it on.
- They should store it in an individual plastic bag.
- All Single-use face coverings should be disposed of after use (not in a recycling bin).

How often will it need to be washed?

Reusable face coverings will need to be washed at the end of each day, ready for your child to wear the next day.

What if my child forgets their face covering?

We will have a small supply of spares available at school.