



Brentside High School

Learning and Achieving Together

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Headteacher: Mr Arwel Jones BSc (Hons), MEd, FRSA

9 October 2020

Dear Student and Parent/Carer,

I write to inform you of a change in practice at Brentside High School that will take place from Monday 12 October.

Firstly, I would like to commend our students on their ability to adapt to the new systems within school designed to make our school a reduced risk environment in light of the global Coronavirus pandemic. I thank you also for your support in explaining expectations and hygiene routines to your child.

Secondly, **in response to the London Borough of Ealing's guidance to all secondary schools, we are now strongly advising that all students and staff wear face coverings when moving around the school building in the corridors and when queuing in the lunch canteen.** This is because there is now evidence to support that doing so helps to keep others safe.

It is extremely important that:

- students and staff wear a different, clean face covering each day (reusable masks must be washed in between use)
- those who use public transport have a separate face covering for their journeys. Public transport face coverings can be stored in a plastic bag between the morning and afternoon journeys
- face coverings must be removed carefully in line with the guidance given below. This is in order to reduce the likelihood of wearers transmitting the virus to themselves or others through incorrectly removing the face covering.
 - only handle the straps, ties or clips
 - do not give your face covering to someone else to use
 - if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a waste bin and do not recycle
 - if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer's instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric using your usual washing powder/liquid
 - where possible sanitise or wash hands thoroughly with soap and water once removed
- You can make your own face coverings and many people are doing so. The links below take you to examples of how to make a face covering provided by the government and the BBC, but there are many more options available online.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52609777>

Those students and staff who are unable to wear a face covering due to disability or health concerns are not expected to wear one. Exemption cards will be made available to those students for whom wearing a mask is not appropriate on health grounds, should they want a card.

If you are concerned about the costs associated with purchasing face coverings, please contact her/his Year Leader (or ask your child to do so).

Our continued thanks for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Charlotte Hames (Interim Co-headteacher)