



26th February 2021

Dear parents / carers,

The Government has this week has again changed its guidance on face masks in school. From March, pupils and staff will be required to wear face masks when in corridors, classrooms and any communal indoor spaces, including toilets.

We feel it is necessary to take every available precaution to protect all of our children and staff, as best as possible. We have therefore taken the decision **to include year 5 and 6 as well** because although these pupils will not move around school as much as year 7 and 8 (due to our primary curriculum model), they will still move in order to be taught Design and Technology, Art, Computer Science, Science and Textiles, as well as moving through the corridors at break and at lunch. As well as giving us a consistent approach, which enables us to manage this more effectively, having all year groups and staff operating in this manner will offer increased protection for all, especially if pupils unavoidably cross paths with pupils from another year group/key stage bubble.

Pupils and staff will be expected to wear their coverings whilst moving around the school building, in classrooms and in areas where pupils/staff may gather such as queuing up for their lunches and in corridors. In line with the new Government guidelines, pupils and staff must keep their masks on through their lessons in the classroom.

Pupils with medical conditions that require them **not** to wear a face mask are exempt from this, but you will need to email the school office and make us aware of this (cvm.office@ttl.org.uk). Those pupils medically exempt from wearing a mask, will be asked to wear a lanyard or badge that the school will provide so that the school staff will be aware.

Pupils must bring at **least x 2 of their own face masks** to school and be responsible for it throughout the day. We do have a small number in stock, though these are for emergency use only. If a pupil arrives to school without a mask, we will contact parents and arrange for payment via ParentPay for a mask or ask that the pupil is collected. This is clearly the last thing we want to do, so please get in touch if we can help at all. Pupils will need to ensure that their covering is packed away carefully in a container or plastic bag before they place this into their school bags, until the end of the lesson or until they leave their room for a break.

I would ask please that all pupils follow the revised guidance for the use of face masks in school:

- Pupils should wear a plain suitably coloured face mask in school. Coverings with pictures, print or logos on them are **not appropriate** for school use. Please ensure that your child understands this so that this new requirement is as effective as possible. If we do feel that a facemask is not in keeping with the guidance set out in this letter, we will ask them to remove it and where possible, replace it with one of our disposable ones. This will only be a temporary measure but may result in us asking you to bring another one into school or asking you to collect your child.
- Pupils must take responsibility for the storage of their face covering when it is not being used.
- Pupils must not lend their face covering to other pupils at any time during the school day.
- Initially, face masks can be of a disposable nature; however, a mask that can be washed and dried is a more sustainable option for school.
- Scarves, 'snoods' or bandanas are **not suitable for school** and can lead to the contamination of other pieces of clothing or areas of the face /head.

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Email: cvm.office@ttl.org.uk Website: cvm.ttl.org.uk

- If pupils do not bring a mask to school, they may be sent home or parents may be asked to bring one in to school immediately for them.

These are appropriate face masks.



The type of face coverings below are **NOT** appropriate for school.



Thank you for your support in this matter.



S. Fryer
Headteacher
Churnet View Middle School