

# Lincoln Castle Academy

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13<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

From 17<sup>th</sup> May, Lincoln Castle Academy students will no longer be required to wear face coverings in school. This change is the result of the Government's easing of restrictions as part of Step 3 of the national roadmap. We appreciate that some students may wish to continue to use a face covering and they are free to do so throughout the academy; this is a matter of personal preference.

In line with Government Guidance, staff and visitors will continue to wear face coverings in communal areas and corridors where social distancing is not possible. Face coverings are no longer recommended for staff in classrooms (although this remains at the individual's discretion).

**Please be aware that all secondary school students are still required to wear face coverings on school and public transport unless exempt.** A helpful reminder of current rules and restrictions including those that come into force on 17<sup>th</sup> May are attached for your convenience.

Although this signals a welcome move towards normality, we are still required to maintain a system of controls to reduce risks and create a safe environment.

At Lincoln Castle Academy we continue to:

- Ensure good hand hygiene
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
  - Operate enhanced cleaning, including wiping down shared equipment
  - Minimise contacts and mixing between year groups, including through a one-way system
  - Keep occupied spaces well ventilated
  - Require adults to maintain a 2-metre distance from students and other adults where possible

Asymptomatic testing remains a vital part of the plan to suppress the virus, alongside engagement with the NHS Test and Trace process. Please continue to ensure your child completes a home test (Lateral Flow Device) twice weekly and reports the result to the NHS and school. If the test result is positive, a confirmatory PCR test must be taken within 2 days and your child and close contacts are required to self-isolate until the result is known. If this PCR result is negative, it overrules the lateral flow test, and your child can return to school. Members of your household and 'close contacts' can also stop isolating.

The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child has any of the symptoms above, they should not come to school and parents must [arrange to have a test](#) immediately via the NHS online booking system. Your child and close contacts must self-isolate until the result is known.

If you require advice, assistance with twice-weekly asymptomatic testing or further information please get in touch via [enquiries@lincolncastleacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@lincolncastleacademy.co.uk)/ 01522 529203.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Laming.  
Headteache