



21/01/2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the government announcement this week, from Monday 24th January, face coverings will no longer be required in classrooms and teaching spaces for staff and students at Meden. As you know, masks were introduced in classrooms at the start of this year as a temporary measure only.

Furthermore, from Thursday 27th January, face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas for staff and students.

The Government guidance states:

*This decision comes in response to national infection data showing the prevalence of COVID-19 to be on a downward trajectory. Whilst there are some groups where cases are likely to continue rising, it is likely that the Omicron wave has now peaked nationally. This means it is right we remove the most stringent restrictions around wearing face coverings from education, but the virus is still with us, and continuing with proportionate protective measures remains vital to protect education.*

*Local directors of public health are able to recommend the use of face coverings in communal areas, across their area only, where DfE and public health experts judge the measure to be proportionate due to specific health concerns. This is a temporary measure. Directors of public health will continue to advise individual settings experiencing outbreaks. Any local introduction of face coverings will be subject to routine review and removed at the earliest opportunity.*

Should any staff or students prefer to continue to wear masks, of course they can continue to do so.

Thank you for your continued support

Kind Regards,

Mr Smith