



27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

You should have received through the post detailed information regarding the return to Manchester Academy next week – the information is also available on our website and on our YouTube channel.

There is an important additional change that will need to happen as Manchester Academy returns next week. Manchester is currently an area of the country that has additional, temporary measures in place to help bring down the transmission rate of Covid-19. We will always follow the government and scientific advice on these issues. Therefore, for the time being, pupils will be required to wear face coverings not only on their journeys to and from school but also when they are in communal areas and corridors within the school. This includes moving between lessons and moving out of the building for breaks, lunchtime and at the end of the day. Once outside the building, students can carefully remove their face covering if they wish to do so.

Pupils are not required to wear face coverings in classrooms or during lessons as the measures we already have in place with regards to social distancing, cleaning and personal hygiene already provide the greatest benefits against transmission of the virus. If students wish to wear a face covering in lessons they will be able to do so but must follow the guidance on safely wearing a face covering. The guidance is available here, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

The Government's advice on face coverings states:

'When wearing a face covering you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on
- avoid wearing on your neck or forehead
- avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus
- change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you've touched it
- avoid taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession (for example, when leaving and entering shops on a high street)

When removing a face covering:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing
- only handle the straps, ties or clips
- do not give it to someone else to use
- if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a residual waste bin and do not recycle
- if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer's instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric
- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser once removed'

Pupils are required to provide their own face coverings and face coverings should be plain, with no slogans or logos, preferably in navy or black.

If the situation in Manchester improves or the national guidance changes, we will of course keep you up to date, but for now, we must all contribute to improving the situation by following the guidance on face coverings.

We cannot wait to see all our students next week, enjoy the final few days of the summer break.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Eldon'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Mr J. Eldon, Principal