



Hillcrest School  
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*Mrs A Mead, Head Teacher*

21 September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Use of Face Coverings and Local Authority Restrictions**

As you are aware, Northumberland had local restrictions put in place from Friday 18 September 2020, following the increased rates for Covid-19.

As a School, we have taken advice on any adjustments that we need to make to reflect the changes above. The recommendation is that face coverings should be worn by **adults and pupils** (years 7 and above) in areas outside classrooms when moving around communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

We therefore ask all parents / carers to ensure that their child has a face covering that they can wear in school **from Tuesday 22 September 2020**. For any student who does not have one we do have a limited supply available but students may prefer their own personal one brought from home. **We do recognise that some students will be exempt from wearing a face covering for medical reasons.**

#### **When do you not need to wear a face covering:**

- Children under the age of 11 (Public Health England do not recommend face coverings for children under the age of 3 for health and safety reasons)
- People who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness of impairment, or disability

Our staff teams will be doing social stories with pupils about wearing face coverings and how to put them on and off safely. We have issued all class teams with plastic bags for students to store them safely and securely when not in use.

As a large number of our students travel to school on transport provided by the Local Authority, we would ask that all parents / carers ensure that their child **wears a face covering whilst travelling to and from School.**

Please be assured that we are following all guidance to keep our community as safe as possible and hope that you support us with the above.

Yours sincerely



Andrea Mead  
Head Teacher