

**Education Resources
Executive Director Tony McDaid
Head Teacher Kevin Boyd
Strathaven Academy**

Our ref: KB/CD
Your ref:
If calling ask for: Mr Boyd
Phone: 01357 524040
Date: 28 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Face Coverings Update - Secondary Schools

As you may be aware, the Scottish Government announced changes to the wearing of face coverings in schools and on school transport to be implemented from Monday, 31 August 2020.

Face coverings should be worn in the following circumstances (except where an adult or child/young person is exempt from wearing a covering):

- where adults and young people in secondary schools (including special schools) are moving about the school in corridors and confined communal areas (including toilets), where physical distancing is particularly difficult to maintain;
- on dedicated school transport (unless exemptions apply) in line with the guidance on public transport.

Face coverings should not generally be required in classrooms or other learning and teaching environments however, young people and staff can wear face coverings where they wish to do so.

Young people may already be familiar with wearing their own face coverings e.g. in shops and will now extend this to within school. However, if required, including if someone forgets their own covering, a supply of re-usable face coverings will be available in school.

We understand that some young people may not be able to wear a face covering due to an underlying health condition or additional support need. This may be something that could change over time if the opportunity of individual support was provided to the young person to assist in overcoming any potential barriers to wearing a face covering. Any parents wishing to consider this should contact the school.

Parents/carers should contact the relevant Guidance Teacher if they feel their child should be exempt from wearing a face covering.

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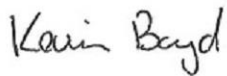
Wearing and storing of face coverings:

- Face coverings should not be shared with others
- Hands should be clean before putting on and taking off the face covering
- Avoid touching while wearing and when not wearing should be placed inside a container inside your child's school bag. Coverings should not be placed onto school desks or other shared surfaces.
- Re-usable face coverings should be changed and washed daily or if disposable should be placed into a general waste bin.

Further information on face coverings, including a PowerPoint delivered to young people, is available on the Covid-19 page on our website.

The safety and wellbeing of young people and staff is paramount and your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Boyd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

KEVIN BOYD
Head Teacher