

16th June 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Re: latest update regarding face masks and PE changing rooms

As a school throughout this pandemic I have put the health and well-being of our students, staff and the school's community at the front of all of my thoughts and decisions.

I had hoped and dreamt that we would be returning to some normality as we approach the end of June.

However, following the announcement of the Prime Minister on Monday evening and advice from our local Public Health Protection team received yesterday due to local increases within Sandwell of the Delta variant, we have no choice but to **reintroduce the wearing of face masks in all areas of the school including classrooms from tomorrow Thursday 17th June** and in line with other Sandwell secondary schools.

We have already cancelled the transition events for our primary students who will be joining us in September but I also now need to **return Year 9 students to wearing PE kit on the days they have PE** having just re-opened the changing rooms for this year group as part of our staged return to normal. This change will also take place **from tomorrow** until further notice. This means that all Phoenix students will now wear their appropriate PE kit on the days that they have PE.

As a Head teacher, I am well aware of the impact those decisions have on our students but I'm sure you will agree that prevention of the spread of this disease is much better than dealing with the effects of it.

As always, I thank you in anticipation of your on-going support through this challenging year.

Yours faithfully,



Mike Smith
Head teacher