

30 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As the half term break draws to a close, I have detailed below some reminders about the current procedures within school. These procedures are in place to ensure the safety of everyone in the building and we would appreciate your support in ensuring that all students follow these routines.

Face Coverings reminder

Face coverings are required at all times on public transport and designated school buses for all students. In addition, in line with the Government guidance for secondary schools in areas of national intervention, students and staff are expected to wear face coverings in all communal areas and where social distancing is difficult.

Therefore, students are expected to wear their masks when they leave classrooms and move around the corridors. They must also wear their masks in communal areas for break and lunch.

Government guidance states that face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom. This is because the measures we are putting in place will sufficiently reduce risk in the classroom, and because they may have a negative impact on learning and teaching. It is really important that face coverings are worn correctly and we advise students to follow this guidance:

- Not touching the front of their face;
- Wash or sanitise their hands regularly;
- Placing reusable face coverings in a clear plastic bag to keep them clean when not worn in lessons;
- It is the parent/carers responsibility to ensure that their child has enough face masks/coverings for the journeys to and from school on public transport if needed as well as for use in school every day.

Some pupils may be exempt from wearing face coverings, any requirement to wear a face covering does not apply to children and young people who:

- Have a disability that means they cannot wear a face covering;
- Would find wearing a face covering severely distressing;
- Are with someone who relies on lip reading to communicate.

Please contact your child's Head of Year via enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk if you feel your child is exempt and we will ensure staff are made aware.

Uniform

Students in Key Stage 3 and 4 are expected to wear full school uniform as outlined on the school website. This includes full PE kit. On days when students have PE, they should arrive to school in their full PE kit. This includes black leggings, tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms. In cold weather they can wear the JWS purple fleece on top of this or their school blazer. Students should not be wearing their own hoodies or tracksuit tops in place of the JWS fleece or blazer.

If you feel there is a specific barrier to meeting the uniform policy, or if you are facing particular hardship, you should contact your child's Head of Year at the earliest opportunity. We have access to a range of funds that families can access if specific criteria are met.

Parent and carer access to the school site

In accordance with the Government guidance, we still need to carefully control visitors to the school site. Whilst we continue to highly value the relationship and communication between home and school, parents or carers must only come into reception or onto the school site with prior agreement or for a prearranged appointment.

COVID-19 symptoms

It is important that if your child, or anyone in your household, is displaying any one of the main symptoms of COVID-19 they must not come to school. This means that if anyone in the household has a high temperature, a new persistent cough or loss of sense of smell or taste, students should not attend school until cleared to do so because of a negative test result or a suitable period of self-isolation. If you need further advice please ring 111.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to read the information contained in this letter and thank you for your continued support.

In the meantime, if you have any further queries that are not specifically addressed in this letter or in the information provided on the government website, please email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mrs T Peters
Headteacher