



Monday 29th November 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Re: Face coverings expected to be worn in educational settings

I am sure you will have heard the Chief Minister announce in his press conference on Sunday 28th November, that from Tuesday 30 November, all staff (primary, secondary and UCM), all secondary and UCM students and all visitors will be expected to wear face coverings in all of the Island's educational settings. This includes attendance at concerts, prize givings, fairs and after school events, which will be going ahead as planned. Although primary school children will not be expected to wear face coverings, it is encouraged that year 5 and 6 do so.

Face coverings play an important role in protecting others from any circulating winter illnesses, and will be most effective if everyone plays their part. We have a limited amount of face coverings that could be provided should anyone have difficulties in providing their own.

Other Mitigations in place

- All educational settings continue to implement measures to support hands, face, space and fresh air.
- All staff plus secondary and UCM students are encouraged to continue to test for COVID-19 at least twice a week using free lateral flow test kits and to 'know before you go', to protect themselves and others
- Any children suffering from any Covid symptoms must not be sent into school. If in any doubt, children suffering from symptoms should be kept off school and you should seek advice from the 111 or arrange a PCR test online. Further details about symptoms and what to do can be found on the Government Covid website at: <https://covid19.gov.im/about-coronavirus/symptoms-and-self-assessment/>
- In the event of a pupil or member of staff becoming unwell whilst within an education setting, a clear protocol to isolate them and arrange for collection will be followed.

Ensuring our schools are as safe as possible for both our staff and students, as well as maintaining face to face learning to minimise the disruption caused to our students are still our key priorities but it must be emphasised that in order to do this we should all work together to keep COVID-19 out of our educational settings and the community.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and understanding. We know that these times are difficult, but we know that you will work with us in partnership to help our students understand and help us to implement the mitigations set out above.

Yours Faithfully

Tamara Quayle
Deputy Headteacher