

HIGH STANDARDS. HIGH ASPIRATIONS. HIGH EXPECTATIONS12th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Apologies for a second letter from me in as many days but with the updates in the Covid Roadmap from Monday evening I know many families will want to know what that means within schools and within Bristol Met in particular.

- **Face Coverings** – many families will welcome the news that from Monday, 17th May, the wearing of face coverings, by those pupils who are willing and able, will no longer be *required* in Secondary schools. Staff and visitors *will* continue to wear them in communal areas where social distancing is not possible.
However, I am also aware that many families found the introduction of coverings a reassurance and therefore any students who would like to continue to wear a face covering, either in the classroom or in communal areas, is welcome to do so.
The new guidance does contain the caveat that coverings may be reintroduced locally and temporarily if any rise in cases is identified. We will of course continue to update should anything change.
- **Unchanged** – most of the other operating requirements for schools (called the ‘System of Controls’ since Covid came along) are unchanged as we move to Step 3 of the roadmap. We are still being asked to bubble by year group ensuring as little mix as possible between year groups. We are still being asked to support ‘hands, face and space’ with regards regular hand washing/hand gel, use of tissues and social distancing where possible. Likewise, we are still being asked to encourage students to not congregate in large groups on their way to or from the Academy.
It is important to recognise that many of the areas mentioned in Monday’s announcement with regards social contact relate to “social occasions” whereas school is classed as a business operating environment (which obviously isn’t what we are to students and therefore it is difficult for many of our young people to fully understand). I would like to assure the community though that we will continue to relax restrictions as and when we are able to. We remain committed to a return to “normal” as soon, but as safely, as possible.
- **PE Kit v Uniform** – the use of changing rooms is allowed within the current framework and the move forward on the roadmap reduces any concerns further. However, we are not yet re-introducing changing and will continue to review when the most appropriate time to return to full uniform will be. We will give advance notice before implementing any change.
- **Water Fights** – Despite the very changeable recent weather, some sunny periods have seen a few water fights at social times. Whilst these are well mannered, I hope that you will understand that we cannot allow them in such a busy environment where spillages of water could present serious health and safety risks. Likewise, having students in wet uniform for periods of the day is not conducive to their comfort. Water Pistols and water bombs are banned from site completely and if seen will be confiscated. We also appreciate your support in asking students not to use other items (their drinks bottles for example) to engage in water fights.

Year 11 only

- **Student Guide to Summer Awarding** - Ofqual have released a new [Student Guide to Summer 2021 Outcomes](#) which has been sent around to students. I thought parents may appreciate seeing it as well. It describes how every Year 11 is being assessed across England for Summer 2021.
- **CLF Post-16 Support Sessions** – in addition to the sessions we are putting on for the first two weeks of next term the CLF Post-16 are also offering a range of online taster sessions and also transition sessions. These are open to everyone



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Principal Mr C Shaw

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regardless of which provision, if any, your child may be going to in September. It is a nice way of getting a taster of a variety of subjects for any students still undecided. [The full plan is available here](#)

Of course, should we receive any further information I will write to you again. Otherwise I will be in touch at the end of term.

Best wishes and thank you for the continued support,

Mr C Shaw
Principal



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