



11th May 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Re: Face Masks

I trust and hope you, and your families are safe and well.

With the safety of all staff and students of paramount importance to me I am writing to you to outline how we intend to ensure that Parkside Studio College remains to be a safe environment. It is imperative that we all work together as a College community to follow procedures devised to keep us all safe.

The government has decided that the wearing of masks will only be **compulsory** for students when in communal areas but we are eager to ensure the health and safety of all staff and students at all times thus have decided that until the end of this term, Friday 21st May, we will all continue to wear masks in lessons too. Therefore, every student should come to College wearing a mask, which is to be worn at all times except outside at break and lunch. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in sports activities. There are also exemptions for those who rely on visual signals for communication, or communicate with or provide support to such individuals.

We strongly suggest that parents, carers and guardians continue to supply their children with at least three masks to carry with them at all times, in case of loss. The College will not be providing spare masks for students that arrive without them. Each year group will continue to be segregated as a 'social bubble'. Students must not congregate or associate with students from other social bubbles, even if they are siblings. Students' entrance and exit timings and gates will also continue to be the same until the end of the academic year.

The government will continue to provide test kits for students that must be administered at home under the supervision of a parent, guardians or carer. We request students take two tests a week; one on a Sunday, and one on a Wednesday. All positive outcomes from these tests must be shared with the college as a matter of urgency.

Please email the college at parksidestudiocollege@trhat.org if you have any further questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully,

K Porter
Principal