



3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I hope that, despite the weather, you managed enjoy a period of rest over the half-term break. It has been brilliant seeing your children arrive smiling as we welcomed them back to school yesterday.

As the country prepares for a national lockdown, and continuing our commitment to observe government guidance, I am writing to share with you the updates that we have made to our strategy to further increase the safety of staff and students alike at Avonbourne Academies.

#### Facemasks and Face-Coverings:

From Thursday morning and until further notice is given, all staff and students will be required to wear facemasks/coverings in all internal communal areas. Facemasks and coverings are not compulsory in lessons, yet students may wear them if they wish to.

Facemasks/coverings must be plain blue or black or of the light-blue surgical type worn by many people currently.

From Thursday, facemasks/coverings will form part of the compulsory equipment requirement and as such, will form part of our equipment checks during line-ups throughout the day. The First Impressions card will be used in cases where a student does not have a mask in their possession.

Students and staff do not have to wear a facemask/covering whilst outside but again, if they wish to, they may.

Staff will be monitoring the wearing of facemasks/coverings in all internal communal areas and where a facemask/covering is not being worn, the First Impressions card will be used in response to ensure that our students quickly form the habit of wearing them.

When not being worn, facemasks/coverings, must be kept in a sealable bag. The pencil case will suffice and if you wish to, please do provide your child with a sealable and clear alternative.

To maintain our high standards and expectations for behaviour and to further support the safety and confidence of our students and staff, we will insist that, when being worn, students wear their facemasks/coverings correctly (covering their nose and mouth). Sanctions for disruptive or defiant behaviour will be responded to in-line with our behaviour policy. Repeated issues linked to inappropriate facemask/covering use may result in the removal of the facemask/covering from a student.

Staff have been fully briefed about our expectations for their own wearing of facemasks/coverings and will of course fully support our students to feel safe and continue to enjoy learning.

#### Hand Sanitising

To further support our commitment to hygiene measures, students and staff will continue to sanitise their hands upon entry to all learning and communal spaces and we have increased the number of sanitising stations to facilitate sanitisation throughout the day.



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We welcome you to provide your child with a personal supply of hand sanitiser that can be kept on their person to further facilitate this if you wish.

### Social Distancing

Whilst Government guidance continues to support the opening of schools in their current format, we will continue to use the social distancing measures in place at Avonbourne Academies.

Kind regards,

**Mr B Nash**  
**Principal**

**Principal:** Bradley Nash  
**Executive Principal:** Richard Tutt

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Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies  
Harewood Avenue  
Bournemouth  
Dorset  
BH7 6NY  
t: 01202 398451

e: [office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)  
w: <http://www.avonbourneacademy.org.uk>