



Monday 21st September, 2020.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

First of all I'd like to thank you and the vast majority of our pupils for understanding the importance of wearing face coverings in school. Today there was a small handful of pupils who hadn't brought a face covering to school because they were unaware of the changes or because they had forgotten.

As I'm sure you're aware, as a result of local lockdown restrictions, schools are now compelled to ensure that pupils wear face coverings in communal areas of the school. What this actually means is that pupils need to wear a face covering at all times with the exception of times when they are eating or during lesson time in the classroom. In real terms that means that pupils will be required to wear face coverings for less than an hour of their day and over non-consecutive short periods of time, for example when navigating the site between classrooms or in the queue to collect lunch items.

There are, of course, some exemptions in line with national guidance and pupils with some pre-existing medical conditions would be exempt from having to wear face coverings on a mandatory basis.

We're going to be asking all pupils to wear face coverings where they can. We recognise that wearing face coverings in line with the Tier 1 lockdown restrictions issued by the government works to keep everyone and each other safe. We also recognise that some pupils with exemptions don't wear face coverings on the school bus because of the length of journey, whilst other pupils who would be exempt continue to choose to do so.

Where a pupil who would be exempt feels comfortable wearing a mask for a short period of time (e.g. walking from one room to another) and can do so safely we'll support this, but where a pupil is exempt due to a qualifying pre-existing medical condition we wouldn't be forcing them to wear a mask.

Across the day today we issued all pupils with a recorded medical condition, that would qualify them as exempt, a pass that they can show to staff to support staff differentiating between pupils who are not complying with govt. restrictions and those who are unable to do so.

I want to stress to parents, that it is the decision of the government to require pupils to wear face coverings in areas subject to local lockdown restrictions and so the school are compelled to enforce this rule. We will be taking deliberate non-compliance extremely seriously as the direction is to help reduce the spread of infection where the area is experiencing an increased rate. As such, and again in line with guidance regarding action that schools can take where wellbeing is concerned, we'll be affording the strongest sanctions to acts of non-compliance as we look to ensure the wellbeing of pupils, staff and our community remains a priority.

Restrictions come in to force in Warrington tomorrow and therefore we anticipate that all pupils will be wearing masks tomorrow unless they qualify under legally established exemptions.

If you feel that your son/daughter would qualify for exemption but hasn't been issued with an exemption pass please contact your son/daughter's year leader.



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THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY NUMBER 10689247

Penketh High School, Heath Road, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BY

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Principal: Mr J Carlin BA(Hons) NPQH



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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AMBASSADOR SCHOOL



Lunchtime

We were pleased with our first day of hot food provision during lunch. Parents will be aware that we offered hot grab items for pupils to buy along with a selection of cold sandwiches.

Should you wish your son/daughter to purchase hot food from school you will need to pre-order food. To make this easy we have made an order form available online and this can be filled out on any smart phone, computer or other mobile device. The order form is located through the following link and you'll be able to see the full range of menu choices available for the week ahead, <https://bit.ly/32GObpZ>.

I'm sure you know that, normally, to pay for food pupils will need to top up their account either by using our biometric systems in school or by parents topping up their accounts through Parent Pay. For obvious reasons pupils will not be able to top up their accounts using the biometric systems this year, nor will they be able to use biometric systems when paying for items. So in order for pupils to have the funds to purchase lunch at school parents will need to top up pupil accounts via Parent Pay and when paying for lunch pupils will be manually looked in our system up at the point of sale by the canteen staff.

We are aware that some Year 7 pupils haven't received their Parent Pay details as yet and so this week Year 7 can bring cash to pay for lunches as we have a procedure in place to be able to accommodate this for a single year group in the short term.

To keep things simple, especially in the first instance, we have adopted a very simple pricing structure similar to those in local shops and supermarkets based on a meal deal concept. For £2.50, pupils will be able to purchase a main hot item or sandwich and a drink. For £3.00 pupils will be able to purchase a main hot item or sandwich, a drink and a side item such as a cake or packet of crisps. We will not be selling cakes or crisps as individual items but pupils will be able to purchase drinks as stand alone items should they need to.

This simple approach is aimed at being able to serve all pupils with the added complication of not sharing biometric devices, providing them with time to eat their lunch and also to afford staff time to clean areas ahead of the next sitting.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Carlin.

Principal.



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