



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Our Ref: LD/DLE/cc/FaceCoveringChange

15th June 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Walsall Council are advising that all secondary schools in the borough should reintroduce face coverings for pupils in classrooms and communal areas. Therefore, **from Wednesday 16th June, all pupils (unless exempt) will be required to bring face coverings into school and wear them in lessons and in communal areas**, except when they are eating and drinking.

Please make sure your child brings at least one plain face covering to school. If they arrive at school without one we will provide them with one and place a charge of 50p on their Wisepay account. Add a minimum of £2 to your child's WisePay account to cover the cost of replacement face coverings should they lose or damage their reusable face covering during the day. Pupils will not wear face coverings while participating in physical activity.

The reasons for this change are outlined in a letter from Walsall Council, the relevant parts of which are reproduced below:

Over the past two weeks the number of Walsall residents testing positive for COVID-19 has significantly increased. COVID-19 surveillance has detected a number of cases of the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant in the borough. It has already been documented by Public Health England that the Delta variant is more transmissible than previous strains. The public health on-call team has also seen an increase in calls where young people attending school or college have contributed to the spread of the virus. As a precautionary move, the Walsall Council is now advising that secondary school and further education settings in Walsall re-introduce the use of face coverings for:

- *All students aged 12 and over in classrooms and communal areas, unless exempt;*
- *All staff and visitors in classrooms and communal areas, unless exempt.*

The national position is also that face coverings must continue to be worn on school and public transport.

If you have previously notified us that your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, you do not need to do so again.

Please also make sure your child is keeping up their twice weekly Covid testing routine, using the free tests provided through us. If you want to know anything more about this, all of the information is here: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/self-testing-at-home/>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ms L Draycott
Headteacher



Barr Beacon School
Old Hall Lane
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0RF
West Midlands



0121 366 6600

@barrbeaconsch

postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk

