



# SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

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14th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Re: Face Coverings in School Update

As you will be aware, the government has recently announced that face coverings will no longer be mandatory in schools from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Further to this guidance, I would like to set out our plans around face coverings moving forward.

As of Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, students and teachers at STFS will no longer be required to wear their face coverings during lesson time. Students will also not be required to wear face coverings during break and lunch, whilst they are in their designated year bubbles during these times. (Years 7 and 8 in the canteen, Years 9 and 10 in the Sports Hall, Year 11 in the main hall and Years 12 & 13 in their respective common rooms).

We feel that the risk of transmission is significantly higher when we have lesson changes and so we have decided that until further notice, students and staff will still be required to wear a mask whilst travelling around the school during lesson changeovers. We feel that to go from wearing masks at all times, to not wearing masks at all, feels a little premature given where we are with the pandemic. In making these decisions, we always have the safety of our staff and students at the forefront of our minds.

As previously, students will not be required to wear masks outside.

To summarise:

### Face coverings must be worn

- As students and staff move between lessons
- If walking about in the building at break and lunch

### Face coverings do not need to be worn

- In lessons/changing rooms
- Outside
- At break or lunch in your year group area or outside.

If students do not feel comfortable in removing their masks during lesson time, we have no issue with them continuing to wear them; this comes with a caveat that students wear their masks correctly and do not misuse them in any way.



We appreciate that this way forward will not please everyone; we are trying to take a logical approach as we make our way out of this pandemic.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your children for all your efforts and support since we have returned to school.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Smith  
**Office Manager**

