

Dear parent or carer,

Many of you will have seen the Prime Minister's briefing on Monday in which he outlined the government's roadmap to gradually ease lockdown restrictions.

Based on the current state of the pandemic and the positive progress being made, it was announced that it will no longer be mandatory for pupils to wear face coverings in our academy from Monday 17 May. That said, any child or member of staff wishing to continue wearing a face covering in academy will be fully supported to do so.

All other protective measures at the academy will remain in place and regular rapid testing will continue to help find and isolate asymptomatic cases when they occur.

What does this mean for my child?

From Monday 17 May face coverings will no longer be a mandatory requirement for pupils in classrooms or communal areas and will no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms. By removing face coverings, interactions between teachers and pupils will hugely improve.

However, the government continues to recommend that face coverings be worn by staff outside of classrooms where social distancing may not be possible. For example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas.

Children and young people aged 11 and over must still wear a face covering on public transport. In accordance with advice from PHE, they must also wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated transport to secondary school or college. This does not apply to children and young people who are exempt from wearing face coverings.

Protecting our children and staff

Please rest assured that our pupils continue to have access to the safest possible academy environment. They will be kept within their year group bubbles and our COVID safety measures, which include regular and focussed cleaning, good ventilation and ensuring good hand and respiratory hygiene, will be reinforced at all times.

The health and wellbeing of your child is our number one priority and we will do everything in our power to ensure their safety. In the meantime, please get in touch with any questions in the usual way.

Best wishes,

L Muhammad

Headteacher

The E-ACT Crest Academy

Twitter: @Likhonmuhammad

Website: <https://crestacademy.e-act.org.uk/>