

18th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you and your family are well. I am writing to advise you of some important changes regarding the school day and face coverings. Our priority is to continue to provide a high-quality education whilst ensuring that our school is as safe as possible and following the guidance from Public Health. It is important that you read the information in this letter carefully with your children.

### **Face coverings in school**

As you may be aware, information has been shared within the local community by Dominic Harrison, Blackburn and Darwen's Director of Public Health, that all staff and students in school should return to wearing face coverings within all communal areas. This is to help reduce the spread of Covid-19, particularly as we reach the winter months. Therefore, **all staff and students should wear face coverings in communal areas of school and on school transport from Monday 22nd November**, with the exception of those who are exempt. Students will be allowed to remove face coverings once seated in classrooms. This advice will be reviewed on a regular basis and we will update you accordingly.

### **The School Day**

In order to keep staff and students safe, we had a temporary adjustment to our school day, which meant that students had a shorter lunch break with an earlier end to the school day at 2.40pm, we will be reverting to the original school day from **Tuesday 30th November, students should arrive at 8.20am and the school day will end at 3.00pm**. This is to allow all students the opportunity to sit down and eat a hot meal in the school dining room at lunch time. This will be organised on a rota system between the different year groups and will give students the opportunity to take part in intervention sessions and extracurricular activities at lunch time. The timings from Tuesday 30th November will be as shown below.

8.20am	Students arrive at school.
8.30-8.50am	Tutor time
8.50-9.50am	Period 1
9.50-10.50am	Period 2
10.50-11.10am	Break
11.10-12.10pm	Period 3
12.10-1.10pm	Period 4
1.10-2.00pm	Lunch
2.00-3.00pm	Period 5



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### Testing for COVID-19

We are also asking all parents to encourage their children to test regularly and to report each result. Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing because they have no symptoms. We are therefore asking all parents to encourage their children to test twice a week and help us to keep school open. Test results should be recorded here; <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

As a reminder, we have staff training on **Friday 26th & Monday 29th November**, students are **not required** to be in school on either day.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Mrs A McGinty  
Head of School