

Dear Parent/Carer

Use of Face Coverings at Balshaw's

Balshaw's students have worn face coverings since October 2020, before they became compulsory in schools from January 2021. The wearing of face masks and the prompt use of isolation has meant that since October we have only experienced individual Covid cases, not transmission within a year group bubble.

Although the headlines state that the government are removing the compulsory use of masks in classrooms, this is not the full story. The government "*continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible.*"

There is an inherent contradiction in this guidance. If you should wear a face covering when social distancing is not possible, that should also include classrooms. Time in classrooms is when students and staff are not socially distanced and are sharing the same air space for prolonged periods of time.

Therefore, for the continued safety of your son/daughter and all others, Balshaw's will continue the rule that students and staff should wear face masks when in the school building until further notice.

Kind regards

Mr Steven Haycocks

HEADTEACHER

BALSHAW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Your Word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. (Psalm 119, vs 105)