

4 September 2020

Dear Students and Parents

I do hope all students have enjoyed their first day at or back to College and are primed and ready for full-time study.

We have carefully monitored how students have moved around the campus and interacted with each other and have been generally pleased with the levels of compliance to our Covid-19 safety procedures. With the reduced numbers in over these days the College has not been crowded and our ability to manage the environment safely has not been compromised.

However, with more students in each day from next week and with some complications putting an effective one-way system in place, something we had hoped would be possible, we have decided that from Monday 7th September all students and staff will be required to wear a face covering when moving around the College. Once in class or in one of our managed study and breakout areas the face covering should be removed. We are confident that in these managed spaces good hygiene and social distancing can mitigate risk.

We appreciate we are perhaps being a little over cautious in implementing this but the situation is one where more caution is not a bad thing.

All students will be required to be wearing a face covering when they arrive at College and enter the buildings. If a student does not have a mask we will be able to supply one whilst this new normal beds in but we must stress that students should provide their own and we would encourage students to find one that works best for them with regards to comfort and practicality. After the first two days any students arriving without a mask will be required to purchase a disposable one from us, we will sell these at our cost price of 35p each.

We would also stress that managing your face covering and putting it on and removing it effectively is something everyone should familiarise themselves with, directions can be found in this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own#how-to-wear-a-face-covering>

Cont.

If any student has a valid reason for not wearing a mask we will need a parental letter explaining this. In such cases we will permit these students an exemption. All requests should be sent to jmg@bsfc.ac.uk

I must stress that all students and staff must adhere to this requirement, with any failure to do so being very quickly escalated to a disciplinary matter. I do not want to have to take such action but in matters of Covid-19 compliance we will be strict.

As in all matters related to Covid-19 safety we will review this requirement and make amendments when we regard these as appropriate.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MK', is positioned above the typed name and title.

Mike Kilbride
Principal