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THE THOMAS ADAMS SCHOOL, WEM

incorporating

ADAMS COLLEGE SIXTH FORM CENTRE ADAMS HOUSE (BOARDING)

Headteacher: Mark Cooper BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Gavin Sterry BSc (Hons) MA



Dear Parent/Carer

Use of face coverings

On Tuesday 25th August the Government announced that headteachers are able to use discretion on the use of face coverings in schools in England. We have decided to allow staff and students to wear a face covering when on school transport, moving around in the corridors and in other communal areas if they wish to do so.

The optional use of masks is in addition to all other methods of infection control in the school and should not be seen as a substitute for social distancing where possible, maintaining year group bubbles and good hand hygiene. All the guidance you have received from the school's leadership team still applies.

The following guidance should be noted and followed:

- The Government is still not recommending face coverings as necessary in education settings.
- Nevertheless, we understand that some staff and students may prefer to wear a face covering in communal areas in school, but at this stage it is entirely optional.
- There may be situations in future where the Government makes face coverings compulsory, for example if local restrictions come into force in our area.
- Students must carry a small plastic bag to contain their face covering when not wearing it.
- Students must wash their hands or sanitise them immediately before and after handling their face mask (ie when putting on or taking off).
- Students should only wear a purpose-made appropriate face covering, not a scarf or other face covering. We would request that these are plain or very simply patterned, and do not contain any extreme designs.
- If a face covering is worn, then it must cover the nose and mouth at all times.
- The school cannot be held responsible for the correct wearing of the face mask – please ensure that you discuss the safe use of the mask with your son/daughter.

Finally, please do stress to your son/daughter that wearing a face covering will only help if it is worn in addition to good hand hygiene and following social distancing (bubbles) rules in school – it is not an alternative to these measures.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support for our school during the past few months – we are really looking forward to working with all our students now they are back in school.

If you have any further questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to us at enquiries@thomasadams.net

Kind regards,

Mark Cooper
Headteacher

