



# Gillingham School

FOUNDED 1516

September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been a pleasure to welcome all of our students back to school this week. I would like to thank them all for adapting so positively to the new arrangements in school: there has been a lot to take in and they have done exceptionally well – thank you.

With effect from Monday 14 September, we will be introducing the wearing of face masks at key times during the day.

All students must wear a face covering:

- On school transport and for the entire journey
- Moving between lessons
- In any indoor social space/communal areas
- Years 12 and 13 in study areas
- When asked to do so by a member of staff when working in a small group/1:1 situation
- If appropriate social distancing is not possible during break or lunch times – particularly when sitting around a circular table and facing each other

Students should not wear a face covering:

- In lessons

Subsequently, we will need each student to bring a face covering with them to school. We recommend that face coverings should be made of reusable and washable fabric but disposable ones will be acceptable. Any students forgetting a face mask will be provided with a disposable face covering for that day. These will not be provided on a regular daily basis.

Students should bring a sealable plastic bag to store their face mask between uses. They should clean their hands before and after use of the face mask. If the face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn and the face covering should be replaced carefully.

During the first week of term, we have recognised that large number of students have been congregating outside school and in particular adjacent to LIDL and the Town Council offices. Please could you remind your son/daughter of the requirement to proceed directly on to the school site and to immediately go to their tutor room. This can occur from any time after 0830.

As the weather deteriorates in coming weeks, students should also be mindful of the need to bring additional coats, umbrellas and the like with them. Unfortunately we will not be able to provide adequate wet weather provision for all our students.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and understanding as we continue to find our way through the myriad of changes to our every day practice at our school.

Yours sincerely

**P Nicholson**  
**Headteacher**

Headteacher P Nicholson BEd (Hons)

Deputy Headteachers K Barker BSc, M Lavis BSc, S Turnbull MA

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