

Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/LFO

13 May 2021

Headteacher:
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Dear Parent

Formby High School / Range High School

The purpose of writing to you is to outline our joint response to the current increase in Covid-19 cases within the local area. We have been working closely with Sefton's Public Health team, and having considered the situation locally, we believe it will be in the best interests of all members of our school communities to maintain the existing system of controls until the end of this half term. Concerns do exist about the recent rise in Covid-19 cases, particularly amongst younger people, and the possible arrival of a new Coronavirus variant. We are aware that the local Public Health team will take necessary measures to address these issues and it is important that we support this effort.

The Prime Minister announced earlier this week that the requirement for students and staff to wear face coverings in school would be relaxed from Monday 17 May but stated that *'the reintroduction of face coverings for students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern'* (DfE Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance, May 2021). With this in mind, students and staff will be required to continue wearing face masks in classrooms and communal areas in both schools. We understand that students may be disappointed that this requirement will continue until half term and we will share with them the reasons why it is important that they continue to play their part in helping to keep themselves and others safe.

In addition to the above, other control measures will remain in place in both schools, including the requirement for regular hand cleaning, good ventilation of teaching spaces and home testing using LFD tests on two occasions per week. Students who travel to school by bus or train should continue to wear a face covering whilst on public transport. In addition, they should adhere to the 'Rule of Six' when meeting indoors with their friends during the evenings and weekends from Monday 17 May. Finally, we ask that parents remain vigilant in ensuring their child does not attend school if he/she is displaying Covid-19 symptoms. Instead, he/she must self-isolate, school should be informed and a PCR test booked.

We understand that continuing to follow these requirements will be challenging, particularly as lockdown restrictions are eased. We trust you will understand why we feel it is important to adopt a community-wide approach and thank you for your ongoing support which is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

D A Mackenzie
Headteacher

M McGarry
Headteacher (Range High School)

