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Dear Parent

As you are aware, the government announced earlier this week that as from Monday 17 May, rules regarding the wearing of face coverings in schools will change.

At Smithdon High School, students and staff, unless exempt, will still be required to wear face coverings in corridors and communal areas, as these are areas where bubbles cross frequently and social distancing is more difficult.

Students and staff will no longer be required to wear face coverings in the classroom, however, your child can continue to wear one if they wish, as can staff. Where your child is in receipt of one-to-one support in class or has one-to-one exam access arrangements support, your child may also want to wear a face covering.

All other Covid safety measures remain in place, including one-way systems and the current break and lunch time arrangements.

Please note - if your child travels to school using a public or school bus, taxi, or other form of public transport, they MUST still wear face coverings.

If we have an increase in Covid-19 cases at Smithdon we may reinstate face coverings in classrooms for a limited time, in line with the new government guidance, as this will help to reduce the spread of any secondary infection. Should this become necessary we will notify you as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support in protecting our school and local community from Covid-19.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Gibbins Head of School

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