

17<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents/Carer,

### Face coverings

I am sure you will be aware, the government have announced that face coverings do not need to be worn in schools from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May. However, it was clear in the guidance that local context and data should be considered when considering risk assessments in schools.

The Head of Public Health for Kirklees has advised all secondary schools to continue recommending that students and staff wear a face covering. Subsequently, they have released the following statement:

*'After taking advice from colleagues in Public Health and given the situation in Kirklees we are recommending locally that our headteachers retain face coverings for students and staff until rates are lower locally and the vaccination programme has progressed further. We will continue to provide regular updates on rates and any other local factors (such as new variants), and will let you know if this recommendation changes.'*

*We are aware that other local authorities are making the same recommendation to their schools, including in areas where infection rates are lower than Kirklees.*

*There is evidence that face coverings do work to reduce transmission in enclosed spaces, but they are only one part of an overall risk assessment. It remains as important as ever to maintain all the other control measures including reduced mixing, social distancing, ventilation, hand hygiene, enhanced cleaning regimes and regular testing. Please continue to make sure that anyone with symptoms self-isolates and gets tested, and that their close contacts also self-isolate.'*

Therefore, from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, students and staff will still be expected to wear a face covering in school. Staff and students who are exempt from this for any reason will continue to remain exempt. Our policy and risk assessments will continue until we are advised otherwise by Public Health advisors. I appreciate that some students may be disappointed, however it is important we continue to follow Public Health and government advice.

### Lateral Flow Testing

The Local Authority shared data on Friday showing that only 15% of students across Kirklees are completing LFT and recording their result. They did not have figures for individual schools, however I would hope our uptake is significantly higher than this. Please continue to encourage your child to complete a test every Tuesday and Friday AND record their result on the government website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>



01484 463366



Royds Hall, A SHARE Academy  
Luck Lane, Huddersfield  
HD3 4HA



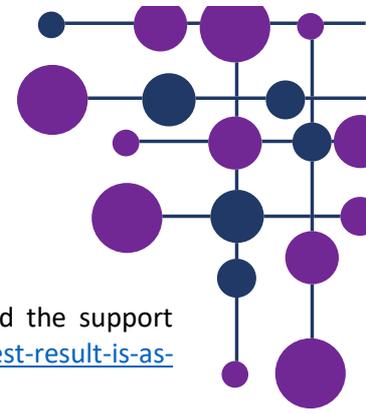
office@roydshall.c



hall.org

Valuing people, supporting personal best

Share Multi-Academy Trust, an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales 07729878.  
Head Office SHARE Multi-Academy Trust, c/o Shelley College, Huddersfield Road, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8NL



The following link highlights the importance of everyone recording their result and the support available. [https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/04/23/heres-why-reporting-your-test-result-is-as-important-as-taking-a-test/?utm\\_source=14%20May%202021%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/04/23/heres-why-reporting-your-test-result-is-as-important-as-taking-a-test/?utm_source=14%20May%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

Students' use of face coverings since September has been truly exemplary, and they are doing a fantastic job of helping keep local communities safe. It is really important that we continue in the same manner so we can continue to protect each other.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jenny Carr  
Headteacher