



Dear Parent/Carer,

### **COVID19 – Face Covering Update**

I am writing to update you on a slight change to the government's advice and guidance on face coverings following the Prime Minister's decision to categorise London's COVID alert level as Tier 2 (high). The full guidance can be accessed by clicking on the following link and the main section that applies is reproduced below. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

'When an area moves to Local COVID Alert Level: high or very high, in settings where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. This does not apply to younger children in primary schools and in early years settings.'

Students may choose to wear a face covering in lessons, corridors and communal areas but must ensure they are following the guidance on safe removal, storage and/or disposal of face coverings. Students who do not wear a face covering in lessons, corridors or communal areas for health reasons or otherwise will not be challenged at this stage and no sanction imposed (we reserve the right to amend our position where necessary). Please note, we have also updated our Risk Assessment and Recovery Strategy to reflect this change and these two documents are available to view on the Sixth Form's website.

As a reminder, if your child or anyone in your household has a 'new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)', they must stay at home and isolate for 10 days and arrange to have a test. Members of the household must isolate for 14 days.

a) If your child tests negative, and they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can also stop self-isolating. They should return as soon as they feel better to do so **(they must inform the Sixth Form before doing so, please see below for details).**

b) If your child tests positive, they must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return onsite only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste so **(they must inform the Sixth Form before returning, please see below for details).** This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. **The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill.** If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal.

Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

If your child exhibits COVID19 symptoms whilst at Sixth Form, they will be isolated from the other students and you will be called to collect them (precise instructions will be shared with you during the telephone conversation). You will also receive an A5 guidance sheet which will summarise the steps you need to take as well as answer some of the key questions you may have.



## Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre

A specialist centre for Science and Mathematics

Principal: Mr Mouhssin Ismail, LLB LLM

Students who are self-isolating will be able to access their lessons via Microsoft Teams, provided they have informed the attendance officer, their teachers and me that they won't be attending Sixth Form because they or someone in their household is symptomatic/tested positive for COVID19; this must also be confirmed by a parent/carer. Where classroom teachers are self-isolating, they will teach their classes remotely where they are well enough to do so.

**If your child is self-isolating or tests positive for COVID19 you must immediately inform Ms Macdonald ([jmacdonald@ncs6.org](mailto:jmacdonald@ncs6.org) Attendance Officer) and me ([mismail@ncs6.org](mailto:mismail@ncs6.org)). Your child must not return to the Sixth Form until they have notified us of the outcome of any test or their isolation period is over (they must still email to confirm their return).**

You can also access the COVID19 Guide on our website which sets out the steps you should take in each given COVID19 related scenario <http://thencs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Covid-19-pupil-absence-guide.pdf>

Should you have any specific questions or queries about the steps we have taken to ensure we are following the government guidance please do not hesitate to contact me.

I will continue to keep you updated if there are any further changes.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr. Ismail**

Principal, The NCS