

To: All Headteachers/Principals  
Enfield Primary, Secondary & Special  
Schools

Please reply to: Peter Nathan  
Director of Education  
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My Ref:  
Your Ref:  
Date: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Headteacher/Principal,

### **Wearing of masks on school premises**

As you are aware, London has now moved into Tier 2 of the new government restrictions relating to Coronavirus. There are a few further implications currently for schools, particularly relation to the wearing of masks on school premises. The guidance states that schools should:

#### ***“Where local restrictions apply***

*In areas where local lockdowns or restrictions are in place, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils (in years 7 and above) in areas outside classrooms when moving around communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain such as corridors.*

*In the event of new local restrictions being imposed, schools will need to communicate quickly and clearly to staff, parents, pupils that the new arrangements require the use of face coverings in certain circumstances.”*

We are of the view that face coverings should be used in school communal areas as stated in the guidance, as this will help minimise risks of transmission in schools. We are aware that many Enfield schools have put this rule in place already, and which has had a high level of compliance without the need for further action, except in a small minority of cases.

Parents would also be expected to follow this guidance when on school premises. If parents are unwilling to wear a mask on school premises, and where they are not exempt from wearing a mask, a headteacher has the right to ask the parent to leave the school site. The local authority will support schools with this as necessary.

**Tony Theodoulou**  
**Executive Director People**  
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[www.enfield.gov.uk](http://www.enfield.gov.uk)

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Staff members do need to follow this guidance too. There have been a few cases in schools where there has been a relaxation in following the social distancing guidance and mask wearing guidance. Adults, especially older adults, are generally more vulnerable to the virus and so it is very important that guidance is followed for the protection of the whole workforce. It should be noted that where staff have become infected it has most often followed adult rather than child transmission.

Thank you for your support and feedback on this matter at the recent Headteachers briefing and I hope this communication provides some clarity.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Nathan  
Director of Education



Stuart Lines  
Director of Public Health

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