

14 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware, next week sees the next stage of the government roadmap for easing lockdown restrictions in England. There is little change for us in school. We continue to work closely with North Yorkshire County Council and Hope Learning Trust to ensure we have every measure in place to ensure everyone's safety and well-being. We will be publishing our updated risk assessment on our website.

From Monday 17 May, students and staff will no longer be required to wear face coverings in classrooms. However, face coverings will still be required in corridors and in communal areas. There will be no other changes; students will remain in their zones, classrooms will remain in rows and we will continue with our separate breaks and lunchtimes for each year group. Should there be a significant rise in the number of Covid-19 cases locally, we may be advised by Public Health England to reinstate the wearing of face coverings in classrooms. We will, of course, keep you updated in the event of any changes. Thank you for ensuring your child has a face covering with them every day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers of Y9 students for their support with our recent online parents evening. It was the first time we have run parents evening online and we were pleased with how it went. We hope to further develop our expertise in this area and are looking forward to future online meetings and events. This will be alongside face to face meetings, once we are able to start those again.

In recent weeks you may have been aware of the 'Everyone's Invited' website where many testimonies have been posted regarding sexual abuse claims. These cover a wide range of circumstances often outside of the school setting and have highlighted wider, deep rooted issues within our society. I would like to reassure you that, in school we have policy and procedures in place, in line with statutory requirements, to ensure we keep our students safe. These structures are constantly reviewed and amended based on national guidance in collaboration with our Trust. We also have a positive and inclusive Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum to support our students. We have an open culture, where students know who to talk to if they have any issues they wish to discuss. We deal with any issues reported in an appropriate and timely manner.

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This week is Mental Health Awareness Week; we have been reflecting on this in school. It is important that we all take care of every aspect of our health and look after ourselves and those around us. There is some useful information in this short video: [Nature and Mental Health - Mental Health Foundation #MentalHealthAwarenessWeek 2021](#).

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emma Robins".

Emma Robins
Principal