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Headteacher Miss Lynn Black



2 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Coronavirus Covid-19 Guidance on Reducing the Risks in Schools

You may be aware that the Scottish Government has published new guidance for Schools on Friday. This guidance reflects the strategic Framework for Scotland and levels introduced for each Local Authority.

The guidance can be read in full here;

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reducing-the-risks-in-schools/pages/overview/>

As Midlothian has been placed in Level 3 the main change for schools are as follows;
Protection Level 3 – Enhanced protective measures

- **all staff and pupils should wear a face covering in classrooms during lessons in the senior phase (S4,5 and 6)**
- **parents or guardians should discuss with their GP or clinician whether children with the highest clinical risk should still attend**
- **face coverings should be worn by parents/carers and other visitors to the school campus, including at drop-off and pick-up points**

The guidance for subjects such as PE, Drama, Photography, Art and Music have also been updated. For PE, pupils can now participate in contact and non-contact sports indoors. We will now need to review our risk assessments and put in place a range of mitigations to allow this to happen safely. We will aim to have these in place by Monday 9th November. PE teachers will share any necessary information with pupils in class this week. Pupils in the Senior Phase (S4-6) will not be required to wear a face mask when undertaking physical activity in PE.

We will need time to digest all of this information and we will update you as early as possible on any other changes we need to make in school.

I would be grateful if you could take the time to go over the changes particularly if you have a child in S4-6.

If your son/daughter has significant underlying health issues and you wish to discuss the implications this guidance has for them please contact your child's guidance teacher or the Depute Head of House;

- Mr Giblin or Mrs McGlade – Hoy House
- Ms Leppan or Mrs Semple – Livingstone House
- Mr Shields or Mr Ryan – Stevenson House.

Thanks you again for your continued support.

Best wishes

L Black

Lynn Black
Headteacher