



Garlinge Primary School and Nursery

25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the government's most recent guidance, I felt I would write to you in relation to the wearing of face coverings on the school site, which I know some of you are concerned about.

We have enjoyed a very positive start to the term, with very good levels of attendance from both staff and pupils and the usual excellent support from our parents and carers, for which we are grateful. Whilst there were initial difficulties in the first few days of term with the flow of so many people around the site, we tried to act swiftly and this problem has greatly reduced.

However, we have had several parents rightly point out that a significant proportion of people dropping off or picking up children are still choosing not to wear face coverings when visiting the school. I took the decision to ask parents and carers to wear face coverings when visiting the school as I am aware that there are pinch points at the entrances and exits which sometimes lead to a large group of people assembling for a short period of time. This will then give further protection against transmitting the virus to each other, our pupils or our staff at these times – which I am sure you will agree can only be a good thing. I would greatly appreciate if the small minority of parents and carers who are choosing not to do so at the moment to start wearing face coverings as soon as possible with the exception of those who cannot do so due to medical conditions.

I will also take this opportunity to explain that I have asked staff at Garlinge to follow government guidance and continue not to wear face coverings whilst at work, including at the beginning and end of the day. The staff are working specifically in the small 'bubbles' that we have created for your children and any interactions on the door are socially distanced and held outside of the school buildings; factors that would mitigate against transmission.

I very much look forward to continue working safely and happily with your children and greatly appreciate the effort that all of our parents and carers are taking to keep each other, our pupils and our staff safe.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Williams".

James Williams
Headteacher