



Bexley Grammar School
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A Specialist Language College and
IB World School
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16 November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Three very quick points:

Please remember the late start tomorrow for students: **registration at 9.20 am** for period 2 at 9.25 am.

Secondly, at the risk of tempting fate, I am pleased to report that, after two weeks, our student cases remain very low, still lower than when we returned after the half term break. I do not know whether or not there is a direct causal link with our reintroduction of face coverings but it is a strong reason to continue, despite the general relaxation of regulations that students experience when they are out and about beyond school.

Lastly, an appeal to those parents/carers of children who are arriving at school without a face covering* and specifically, a reusable one: Please ensure that they are carrying at least one (a spare would be helpful) each day. Reusable, washable face coverings are widely available and inexpensive. And, of course, thank you to the majority who are ensuring their children have a mask each day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Steve Elphick

cc. Sixth form students

**Restriction fatigue is evident this time around in maybe a quarter of our students; although they are perfectly willing to put on a mask when reminded, they keep forgetting/losing/breaking their masks and have to be directed to reception to collect a disposable one. As of today (exactly two weeks since our return from half term) we have given out over 4000 masks! That is an average of 400 per day! I have just checked those numbers and our receptionists confirm that this fits with their experience, where some students are visiting more than once in a day because of lost/broken masks. Aside from cost, this is not environmentally-friendly.*