**Temporary additional protective measures due to COVID-19**

Context

* The latest data for the UK and the West Midlands in particular shows a rapid rise in people tested positive for COVID-19.
* We have a duty of care to keep each other safe
* We have a responsibility to ensure that schools remain open wherever safe to do so.
* The wearing of face coverings is now widely accepted by the UK government as helping to limit the spread of the virus. This is backed up by scientific evidence.

Additional measures

The following measures, if implemented consistently, will reduce the likelihood of the virus spreading. There are 2 specific areas to consider:

* Visitors who are visiting multiple schools on a regular basis. This increases the risk of spreading the virus.
* For staff working in school – operating current UK government advice to all: 2m or 1m+ (1m metre + additional measures eg face coverings)

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| **Measures to limit the spread of infection** | **Reason/ Impact** |
| All visitors to school must wear a face covering while in school in all areas except when they are working directly with children. | Visitors who visit other schools on a regular basis are in contact with a lot of people, increasing the risk of exposure to someone with the virus. They pose a risk of spreading infection to staff in school as well as being at increased risk themselves. |
| Parents are asked to wear face coverings when dropping off/ collecting children where 2m social distancing is not being adhered to. | This decision to be taken locally, depending on how arrangements are working. |
| All students in Year 7 and above must wear face coverings in all communal areas. Additional measures to be put in place locally for students over 16 where social distancing is restricted. | Birmingham now at Tier 1. Young people are currently at greatest risk of becoming infected. They pose an increased risk to each other, contacts outside school and staff. |
| All staff members to wear face coverings in communal areas and in meetings where 2m social distancing can’t be consistently achieved. | We have a duty of care to our colleagues. Some are more vulnerable. Wearing a face covering helps protect others.  Reducing the risk of infection will also reduce the risk of staff not being able to attend school |
| All meetings to take place remotely wherever possible. If face to face meetings cannot be avoided:   * Limit the number of people present * Keep the meeting as short as possible * Use the largest available space and ensure good ventilation | We have learnt that we can continue to operate using other methods in order to fulfil our core purpose.  We want to keep staff safe.  We don’t want to close classes, groups or schools unless absolutely necessary. |
| Staff are not discouraged from wearing face shields and face coverings when teaching children. | We want to support our staff and help them feel safe.  It is preferable to have children in school with their teacher wearing a mask than classes/ year groups/ schools to be closed. |
| All centrally employed staff will only visit school for essential visits and will wear a face covering.  Support from the central team will continue to be conducted remotely. | Similar to external visitors, staff who visit other schools on a regular basis are in contact with a lot of people, increasing the risk of exposure to someone with the virus. They pose a risk of spreading infection to staff in school as well as being at increased risk themselves. |