



Blackburn Central HIGH SCHOOL

**Blackburn Central
High School**
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19th November

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your family are well. I am writing to advise you of some important changes regarding the school day and face coverings. Our priority is to continue to provide a high-quality education whilst ensuring that our school is as safe as possible and following the guidance from Public Health. It is important that you read the information in this letter carefully with your children.

Face coverings in school

As you may be aware, information has been shared within the local community by Dominic Harrison, Blackburn and Darwen's Director of Public Health, that all staff and students in school should return to wearing face coverings within all communal areas. This is to help reduce the spread of Covid-19, particularly as we reach the winter months. Therefore, **all staff and students should wear face coverings in communal areas of school from Monday 22nd November**, with the exception of those who are exempt. Students will be allowed to remove face coverings once seated in classrooms. This advice will be reviewed on a regular basis and we will update you accordingly.

Testing for COVID-19

We are also asking all parents to encourage their children to test regularly and to report each positive result. Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing because they have no symptoms. We are therefore asking all parents to encourage their children to test twice a week and help us to keep school open.

Mobile Phones

I would like to alert families to a dangerous and unlawful TikTok trend that encourages students to commit school vandalism and theft and then post the videos on social media. In addition, my staff and students have been distressed to discover themselves appearing on TikTok videos which have been shared widely. I'm reaching out to all students and families again to inform you that similar challenges have been identified for the coming months, all of which are dangerous, destructive, and illegal.

While I would hope that our BCHS students would not engage in this type of unacceptable behaviour, students who participate will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and face disciplinary action that may include suspension and expulsion. We strive to provide a safe environment at BCHS, and this type of disrespectful and disruptive behaviour does not belong in the BCHS family. We don't want the consequences of these actions to affect your family, so we urge you to discuss with your child the importance of not participating in these negative social media challenges and instead consider engaging in acts of kindness that help us build a stronger school community. Please can I also remind yourselves and your children of our policy on mobile phones. [Click here to read our Mobile Phone Policy](#)

Mobile phones may not be used on school grounds.

- Mobile should be switched off and kept out of sight in students' school bags or blazers at all times whilst at school
- Parents and carers are requested that in cases of emergency they should contact the school office so we are aware of any potential issues and may make necessary arrangements.

Thank you for supporting a positive school climate by discouraging anyone from these harmful challenges. We appreciate your partnership and support as we work to keep our school a safe and positive place to learn.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Hussain
Headteacher

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