



Knowsley Council

14th May 2021

Dear Colleagues,

As you will be aware, England moves to Step 3 of the Government's roadmap to recovery from Monday 17 May, meaning that further restrictions will be eased.

As we started to move out of lockdown in March, as a precautionary measure, pupils in Year 7 and above, along with school staff, were advised to wear face coverings in indoor education settings, including in the classroom. We know that COVID-19 is easily transmitted from person to person and that risk is greater indoors.

From Monday 17 May, this additional precautionary measure is no longer recommended. Pupils will no longer need to wear face coverings in classrooms or communal areas within education settings.

Please note that whilst this is Government guidance, the wearing of a face covering is personal choice and if you wish to continue to wear a face covering, you can continue to do so.

Whilst face coverings don't need to be worn in the classroom, it is recommended that face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors outside of the classroom where social distancing is not possible (such as when moving through corridors or communal areas).

Parents and carers should continue to wear face coverings when on the school premises for dropping off and picking up and pupils are also reminded that face coverings must be worn on public transport, unless they are [exempt](#).

Please be aware that the reintroduction of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern. Schools also may continue with the use of face coverings in response to local intelligence and in line with their risk assessments.

It is important to reiterate that the pandemic isn't yet over – we can't be complacent and need to remain cautious as we move to step 3 of a 4 step process and we can only progress to the next step when it is safe to do so.

We all need to continue to play our part to keep our case numbers low. This includes regular hand washing, maintaining social distancing, wearing a face covering where advised and choose outside rather than inside.

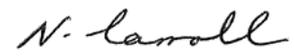
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
PO Box 21 Archway Road Huyton Knowsley Merseyside L36 9YU
Telephone: 0151 489 6000 www.knowsley.gov.uk



Thank you once again for your continued support.

Additional guidance can be found [here](#).

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Carroll". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Nadine Carroll
Head of Education