



# ULVERSTON VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL



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Our Ref: MHa/AJH

*An exceptional school at the heart of the community*

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The government has been very good during the period of this pandemic at offering *advice* to headteachers, but only rarely *directing*. We have been *directed* that students and teachers should not wear masks in classrooms. In fact, this makes good sense, due to not only the practicalities of teaching lessons but also supported by the science behind transmission. We have therefore relied on hygiene measures and social distancing between staff and students. However, the wearing of masks outside the classroom is a grey area. As headteacher, I have to balance safety with the wellbeing and management of the students when it comes to wearing masks in corridors.

Consequently, with the national lockdown beginning on Thursday, and the inclement weather forcing more students in doors all day, we will bring in the wearing of masks for all students and staff in corridors and inside public spaces where social distancing cannot be maintained. We feel that this is appropriate given the national and local picture.

From Thursday, please ensure that your child has a face covering. Please work with us and ensure that these are of an appropriate design for an educational setting, one colour would be best.

If your child has a medical reason for being exempt from wearing a mask, please provide a letter from a medical professional.

Students should only be isolating if directed by Track and Trace and/or the school. If individual students, as opposed to year groups, are self-isolating, the work they are missing for each lesson should be available on Teams.

As you are aware, we have had very few cases in school and have managed these in a way that allows us to continue with live lessons for all students. However, we feel that this change is necessary at this time and it will be reviewed as the national picture develops.

Please contact us if you need any support.

**Mr M Hardwick**  
Headteacher

