



# Waterbeach Community Primary School

*Learning - Laughter - Friendship*

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that this letter finds you all well. I am looking forward to the start of the new term and I know that the staff team are all excited about welcoming your children back to school,

I am writing to you with some new information that was shared yesterday about the wearing of face coverings in primary schools.

I wanted to share this with you, as soon as possible, to avoid any difficulties when the children return on Thursday and Friday.

The government have advised that it is not necessary or helpful for children in primary schools to wear face coverings during their time in school. The guidance states that it could, in fact, make it harder for the children during lessons. I have to agree with this, as the thought of a child wearing a face coverings for an extended period of time, complying to the rules about not touching the front of the mask and ensuring that it does not come into contact with surfaces is really distressing and not practical for our children. The covering will restrict communication and make it difficult for children to express themselves.

We have been asked to let you know that primary schools will not be expecting children to wear face coverings. Please help us in this by not sending your child to school with a face covering. If you feel unsure about this, please read the Government guidance about the reopening of schools [here](#). It states that primary aged children are at low risk and that they will not be adversely affected by not wearing a face covering.

*"Based on current evidence and the measures that schools are already putting in place, such as the system of controls and consistent bubbles, face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible. Face coverings would have a negative impact on teaching and their use in the classroom should be avoided." (Guidance for full opening: schools GOV.UK)*

I understand that this may cause anxiety for some parents but ask you to please consider the practicality for your child throughout the school day. I also understand how hard this situation is for everyone.

I will just add that parents and carers entering the site may choose to wear face coverings and will be asked to do so if entering the school building for appointments.

There are several letters that will be coming out in the next few days. I apologise, in advance, for email traffic heading your way, but this is a continually changing situation and we want to keep you all as updated as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Miss Jane Green  
Head teacher

*Our school will encourage each child to grow into a happy, confident individual, thriving in a supportive community where each is inspired to learn and discover through a kaleidoscope of opportunities, with space to imagine and to create.*