



SPERRIN
INTEGRATED COLLEGE

COVID-19 MITIGATIONS UPDATE 18TH MARCH 2022

FROM: 21st March 2022-30th April 2022

CONTEXT:

Parents and Guardians will be aware that on Friday 11th March 2022 the Minister of Education issued a statement regarding guidance on the use of face coverings by post-primary pupils within schools.

Face coverings formed part of the suite of in-school mitigations Sperrin College used to help alleviate the risks of virus transmission. Data from the PHA and our own pupil case numbers show a sustained decline in reported cases of COVID-19 within our school community.

A review has been conducted and in line with the ministerial announcement, Sperrin College is moving to 'cautiously transition' to pre-COVID practices and procedures within our school community.

From 21st March until 30th April 2022 detailed below are the main points for parents and guardians to be aware of:

Changes to Day-to-day operational procedures:

1. Face-coverings are no longer recommended in classrooms. (If any pupil wishes to wear a face-covering this is acceptable)
2. Rigorous cleaning routines between classes is no longer required, instead this is at the teacher's discretion. This includes cleaning of computers.
3. Face-coverings are encouraged in the canteen queue.
4. Group and teamwork are encouraged (without limitation on numbers).
5. Whole School Assemblies will revert to being 'in-person': Tuesdays for Junior School (KS3) and Wednesday for Senior School (KS4/5) in the Assembly Hall.
6. Educational visits will be planned in line with the school's educational visits policy.
7. Parental face to face meetings can be organised as required.

Procedures that WILL NOT change:

1. Face-coverings on school and public transport.
2. Separate entrances for KS3 and KS4/5.
3. Hand-washing requirement prior to entering the building.
4. Separate toilet use and specific toilet facility use for Year Groups.
5. Separate dinner time entry and exit.
6. Break-time service will not yet resume at 11.00, however, pupils can use the canteen area for recreational use.
7. Ventilation in rooms.

Review:

Parents and Guardians are to note that there is a balance of relative risk associated with these changes and COVID-19 continues to circulate in the wider community. For this reason, the school will keep these changes under review and will continue to monitor daily our COVID case numbers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. A. Heron".

B A Heron

Principal