

Dover Grammar School for Girls

Return to School September 2020

Updated Guidance on Face Coverings



Wednesday 26th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I had thought I had written my last letter to you before the beginning of term, however I am now writing to you to inform you of a change in government guidance regarding face coverings which will affect our students and staff.

The government now states that: schools and colleges have the discretion to ask for a face covering to be worn in communal areas where social distancing cannot be safely managed, if they believe that it is right for their particular school and would be in the best interests for all students and staff on site.

Dover Grammar School for Girls has an extremely restricted site including narrow corridors and when all students return next week we will no longer be able to maintain the one-way system in school. Therefore, we will require all students to bring face coverings with them to school and wear one in the communal areas of the school e.g. the corridors. Each student **must** bring plastic sealable bags to dispose of their individual face covering should it get wet or damaged and spares should be carried as a replacement. Students will not be required to wear a face mask in the classroom, outside and in the canteen when eating.

Although the guidance is for students over the age of 12, we would like to ask that for ease of compliance all year 7 students follow the above advice too.

If you are unable to purchase a face covering for reasons of financial hardship, or if a student is medically exempt from wearing a face covering please inform us as soon as possible by emailing enquiries@dggs.kent.sch.uk

Our priority is to make our school as safe as possible for both students and staff and for a smooth transition back into this academic year when we all return next week. I appreciate that a last-minute change can be difficult for students and parents/carers, but I feel that this decision is necessary at this time.

As a staff we look forward to welcoming everyone back and meeting our new students.

Yours sincerely,

Mr RCF Benson

Headteacher