The DfE recommends but does not mandate the wearing of face coverings in settings where students in year 7 and above are educated. The DfE guidance makes clear that some students/staff/visitors are exempt from wearing face coverings, that a student cannot be compelled to wear a face covering and that no student should be denied education on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering. The DfE guidance is non-statutory and does not amend existing legislation. The requirements under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 remain and the employer must take reasonable steps to ensure that their staff and students are not exposed to an unacceptable level of risk. This needs to be balanced with a school’s duties under the Equality Act 2010 and the requirement not to place any unreasonable restrictions on staff or students' rights.