

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The Government made an announcement on the 25th August regarding face coverings and published new guidance on the 26th August

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

The Government has issued new guidance on face coverings for staff and children in Year 7 or above in England. Nationwide, while the government is not recommending face coverings are necessary, schools will have the discretion to require face coverings in communal areas if they believe that is right in their particular circumstances.

The current position of the school is that staff and students may wear a face covering if they wish to do so. We will be reviewing this constantly in the next week and continuing to follow Government guidance. If we need to make face coverings compulsory in communal areas and/ or in other locations we will contact parents and staff

The Government advice is that in areas where the transmission of the virus is high, face coverings should be worn by adults and students in secondary schools when moving around the school, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. It will not be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and where they can inhibit learning.

PPE for staff will be required in a very small number of cases, including:

- where an individual child or young person becomes ill with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while at schools, and only then if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained
- where a child or young person already has routine intimate care needs that involves the use of PPE, in which case the same PPE should continue to be used

Removal of face coverings – students and staff must remove face coverings using the correct method

- Do not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing it.
- Dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.