



FACT SHEET

Face coverings in primary schools: how to make it work

Here's what to expect now our school is introducing face coverings in shared areas for staff and visitors *only where maintaining social distance is difficult.*

Our children are 11 years old and under: they do not wear face coverings; neither do adults working with them.

When will I need to wear a face covering at school?

You'll need to wear a face covering in school if you are any member of staff needing to use or travelling through an area where maintaining social distance from other adults is difficult (NOT pupils/children) or if you are an occasional visitor to the school (parents/carers/contractors etc.)

Where exactly will I need to wear it in school?

You'll need to wear it when you move through shared indoor areas of the school where it's difficult to stick to social distancing. This includes corridors and staff rooms

You **won't** need to wear it outside or in classrooms

What will I need?

All staff will need to come to school with:

A **face covering**. All staff have reusable transparent plastic face shields suitable for occasional use when children are present. We'd recommend a reusable one so that you can use it more than once, as you'll need to take it on and off several times during the school day. Occasional visitors may use any type of face covering; if single-use is chosen, you need to bring enough.

A **sealable plastic bag** (fabric coverings only) to keep your face covering in when you're not using it, so that it doesn't contaminate (or get contaminated by) other surfaces in school

Where can I get a face covering?

Reusable and single-use face coverings are available to buy in shops or online

Every member of school staff has been provided with a transparent plastic face shield

We've attached instructions from the government on how to make a cloth face covering

How do we need to use them?

The face covering needs to cover your nose and mouth when you're wearing it

You shouldn't touch the front of the face covering or the part that's touched your mouth or nose

You should wash your hands before and after touching the face covering, including to take it off or put it on.

Store fabric face coverings in an individual, sealable plastic bag between uses

If a fabric face covering becomes damp, you shouldn't wear it, and you should replace it carefully

You must throw it away in a bin (**not** a recycling bin) if it becomes damaged or is single-use

If it's a reusable mask, you'll need to wash it at the end of the day before use the next day. Follow the washing instructions for the fabric. You can use your normal detergent, and you can wash and dry it with other laundry

If it's a reusable transparent plastic face shield, clean it with disinfectant spray or hot soapy water between each use

How can we keep school users safe?

Dispose of single-use or damaged masks into lidded bins (not for recycling)

What if I am exempt from wearing a face covering?

You [won't need to wear one](#) in school at any time