

Face coverings in school: how to make it work

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

You'll need to wear a face covering in school:

- Parents - when dropping off and picking up your child
- Staff - Only if our school is in a local lockdown area, or if this becomes the case. We'll let you know by email if this does become the case. We'd recommend reading this factsheet and securing a face covering so you're prepared

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 in classrooms

What will I need?

All staff will need to come to school with:

- A **face covering**. 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. If this isn't an option, you'll need to bring in several single-use face coverings each day
- A **sealable plastic bag** 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

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 it in an individual, sealable plastic bag between uses
 - If it 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
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How can we keep pupils safe?

- Make sure your classroom has a lidded bin (**not** for recycling) where pupils can safely dispose of their damaged or single-use masks
 - Share [this video](#) from the World Health Organisation with pupils in class so they know how to wear their face coverings safely
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What if I am exempt from wearing a face covering?

- You [won't need to wear one](#) in school
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What about younger pupils?

- This guidance on wearing face coverings doesn't apply to children under the age of 11
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What if I forget my face covering?

- We'll have a small supply of spares available at school