



Your Ref:  
Our Ref: ES/SP  
Contact: Eleanor Sheppard  
Location: Marischal College  
  
Date: 26 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Updated guidance on the use of face coverings in schools has now been issued by the [Scottish Government](#).

From Monday 31 August face coverings should (unless exemptions apply) be worn by:

- All adults and pupils in secondary schools must wear a face covering when moving around the school, such as in corridors and communal areas, where physical distancing is difficult to maintain
- All children aged 5 and over must wear a face covering on dedicated school transport. This is in line with guidance for public transport.

There is no change for pupils in primary school who do not use school transport.

Staff and pupils will be supported to wear face coverings over and above this guidance if they choose to do so.

All children and young people who travel by school transport (primary and secondary) will be expected to wear a face covering from Monday 31 August. There are very good medical reasons why some children are unable to wear a face covering. We ask that you advise the school if your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, details of those who are exempt are available in the linked national guidance. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-3-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/pages/face-coverings/#:~:text=People%20must%20by%20law%20wear,unless%20in%20a%20crowded%20situation>.

Advising us of exemptions will ensure that we are able to advise transport providers of these exceptions. We anticipate that children and young people will already have a face covering. We ask that you let us know if you are unable to provide a face covering for Monday so that we can help your family prepare for this change.

All young people of secondary school age will be expected to wear a face covering in corridors and communal areas of school from Monday 31 August. Again there are very good medical reasons why some young people are

unable to wear a face covering and we ask that you advise the school if your child is exempt from wearing a face covering in keeping with the linked guidance above.

Again, we anticipate that young people will already have a face covering but ask that you let us know if you are unable to provide a face covering for Monday so that we can help your family prepare for this change.

It would be helpful if you could discuss these changes with your child and talk through how to wear and dispose of face coverings. A helpful short film is linked to assist you <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/health-52606128>. Our schools will also brief pupils on the use of face coverings.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eleanor Sheppard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'E' and 'S'.

**Eleanor Sheppard**  
Chief Education Officer