



Eggar's School

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Registered in England & Wales with Number 08036151

17 September 20

Dear Parent

Covid-19 - Face Coverings at Eggar's School from Monday 21 September 2020

The current DfE guidance on the prevention of Coronavirus in schools, gives schools that teach Years 7 and above the discretion to require face coverings for staff, students and visitors, in areas outside the classroom where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.

As you will be aware, since the start of term, we have been **recommending** that students wear face coverings when they are moving around our school building. Having monitored the situation this week and taking into account the news that the Reproduction (R) rate is rising, we have reviewed our policy and now write to inform you that from Monday 21 September it will be **mandatory for all staff, students and visitors** to wear face coverings, when they are moving around school, such as in corridors at lesson changeover. Face coverings will not be required in the classroom or at break and lunch times.

Some individuals will be exempt from wearing [face coverings](#). This applies to those who:

- cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment or disability;
- speak to or provide assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate.

These same exemptions will also apply in our school and please be assured our staff will be sensitive to those needs.

Due to the increasing use in wider society, we are assuming that students will have access to face coverings. Nevertheless, we will hold a small contingency stock in school to meet the needs of any student who is struggling to access a face covering, or where their face covering has become soiled or unsafe. Where students need to dispose of a face covering in school, they can do so in the Catch it, Bin it, Kill it bins provided, which are located at all student entry points to the building and in all departments around school. Students should have clean hands before touching their face coverings (including putting them on and removing them) and a safe storage item, such a resealable plastic bag, for when the face covering is not in use. Teachers will be instructing students further on the safe wearing of face coverings early next week.

Further guidance on face coverings can be found at [Face coverings in education settings](#). In addition, we have been experiencing lots of calls from parents who are unsure whether they should send their child to school if they are feeling unwell. As you will know, no child should come to school if they, or any member of their household are experiencing any signs of Coronavirus, which are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature);
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough it may be worse than usual);
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.



To support you in your decision making, please find attached guide, which we hope you will find useful. Please note, further advice on what to do if your child has coronavirus symptoms can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Finally, please be advised that the monitoring of movement around the school is under constant review, as we strive to provide the best education experience possible, during these difficult times and we will keep you updated of any changes.

If you have any queries, please let us know by emailing enquiries@eggars.hants.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Eggar's Health & Safety Team