

Harris Academy

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Respect Equality Enjoyment Achievement



New National Guidance on the Use of Face Coverings

Dear Parent / Carer,

Following an announcement by the Deputy First Minister on Tuesday 25 August 2020, the guidance for school staff and pupils across Scotland regarding the use of face coverings is changing.

The new guidance will take effect from Monday 31 August. It states that face coverings should also be worn by staff and pupils when:

- adults and young people in secondary schools (including special schools) are moving about the school in corridors and confined communal areas (including toilets), where physical distancing is particularly difficult to maintain
- adults, young people and children aged 5 and over are travelling on dedicated school transport

In the case of our building, face coverings will be expected in all spaces apart from:

- classrooms / other teaching spaces
- dining spaces when seated and eating or drinking
- office spaces

Further information on face coverings is available from the Scottish Government

website: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-preparing-start-new-school-term-august-2020-version-2/>

It is understood that some staff and children and young people who cannot wear a face covering for good reasons and that position will be respected. I would ask all parents / carers of young people who are exempt from wearing face masks to contact us at our new school email address, harrisacademy@dundeeschools.scot which will be picked up by a member of the relevant House Team. Those young people and staff who are exempt from wearing a face covering will be offered the opportunity to wear a small badge (description of which is still being confirmed) indicating thus and therefore restricting the need for staff members to question as to why no face covering is evident.

For more details on reasons for exemption, please click on the following link:

[Scottish Government advice](#)

Staff and pupils should ensure they:

- bring their own appropriate face coverings to school
- store these safely in a washable, sealable bag or container when not in use
- wash reusable face coverings in hot water at the end of each day; and
- safely and hygienically dispose of disposable face coverings after use.

Full face covering guidance is available via this link: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-3-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/pages/face-coverings/>

Please remember that a face covering can be as simple as a scarf, snood or other piece of cloth which covers the nose and mouth.

We will arrange for a limited supply of face coverings to be available. If you think you may have difficulty in sourcing a face covering please contact us at the above email address.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Millar', written over a horizontal line.

Barry Millar
Head Teacher