



Castle Donington College

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JS/LD/Face Coverings for pupils

26th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Face Coverings for pupils at Castle Donington College

The World Health Organisation (WHO) published [a new statement](#) on the 21 August on when children should wear face coverings. They now advise that “children aged 12 and over should wear a mask under the same conditions as adults, in particular when they cannot guarantee at least a 1-metre distance from others and there is widespread transmission in the area.”

As a result, late last night, the government revised its guidance on face coverings for staff and children in Year 7 or above in England. They have stated that nationwide, while the government is not recommending face coverings are necessary, schools will have the discretion to require face coverings in communal areas if they believe that is right in their particular circumstances.

In addition, and consistent with WHO’s new advice, the government advises additional measures are taken in areas where the transmission of the virus is high. In these areas, [listed on gov.uk](#), the government’s guidance states that face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils in secondary schools when moving around the school, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. At the moment Castle Donington College is not in a high transmission area.

We published during the summer that pupils and staff may wear a face covering if they want to. Government guidance still states that ‘It is not necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures are in place and already mean the risks are lower, and where they can inhibit learning.’ This continues to be the measure we have in place.

The Government have advised that guidance on face coverings, in all education settings, will be updated and published shortly. This will come into effect from 1 September. As the autumn term has already started at the College, we wanted to ensure you had the information you need. I have set out our stance on face coverings below.

Inside College

Wearing of a face covering is optional for staff and pupils.

If staff or pupils do wish to wear a face covering it must not be the same one worn on the journey to the College, it must be worn correctly and removed correctly and stored/ disposed of correctly. We advise pupils have at least two face coverings and a secure storage with them

Pupils travelling to College on public transport

Pupils must wear a face covering if they travel on public transport. This must be removed and disposed of, or stored securely in a bag before entering the College. **If a pupil would like to continue to wear a face covering in College a second face covering is necessary.**

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Pupils travelling to College on School buses

We ask that pupils wear a face covering if they travel on a school bus. Pupils must sit in their Year zones and not change seats. On arrival, any face covering must be removed and disposed of, or stored securely in a bag before entering the College. **If a pupil would like to continue to wear a face covering in College a second face covering is necessary.**

Pupils walking to College

On arrival, any face covering must be removed and disposed of, or stored securely in a bag before entering the College. If a pupil would like to continue to wear a face covering in College a second face covering is necessary.

Our Covid safe procedures do not allow any mixing of pupils on corridors or in communal spaces. At this stage we do not insist pupils wear face coverings, however this may change as the term gets underway. As always we will advise you of any changes to our procedure/ policy.

We are following information we receive from the DfE very closely but do not receive early access to or timely government announcements. This is an ongoing cause of frustration and I appreciate your support. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require further information.

Yours faithfully,



Julie Sheppard
Principal