



Willow Lane Community Primary School

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Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

RE: Face Masks/Coverings at our school

Face coverings and their use in schools is in the press a lot at these times and I hope that the following questions and answers give you the clarity you need.

Will my child need to wear a face covering in school?

No. At this time, government guidance states that children in primary schools do not need to wear a face mask in school. For very young children, wearing something over the mouth and nose can be dangerous. For other children, correct use and the temptation to handle masks is too much and this could lead to the spreading of germs too. Other measures (bubbles, hand washing, cleaning etc) are in place to keep people safe. **Children will not be wearing face coverings at our school.**

Can my child wear a face covering on their way to school?

Yes. If you or your child wants to wear a face covering for drop off and collection then that is your choice. If children wear face coverings to school we are asking **parents to take the covering home** with them so that they can wash them/dispose as needed. Parents can then bring a clean covering at the end of the day if they wish.

Will staff be wearing face coverings in school?

Not with children. In line with the government guidance, face coverings would have a negative impact on children's learning. Primary schools are successful places of learning because of the good relationships established between staff and children and face coverings would interfere with this. We also do not want to scare children as there are many other safety measures in place and school is a place our children love attending. Staff may wear a face covering in staff communal spaces if we feel this is needed.

Will visitors be wearing face covering in school?

Yes. To help keep our children, staff and community safer, we are asking visitors (for example contractors who check our water and fire alarms) to wear face masks throughout their visits. We are asking other visitors (for example SEN Specialists and Social Workers) to wear face masks when in communal areas but not when with children as for the reasons above. Some visitors (for example health professionals such as Occupational Therapists) may have their own guidance and be wearing face coverings and other PPE. We will support them in following their own guidance.

The government guidance may change and we will update you accordingly. Thank you for your continued support,
Mel MacKinnon

