

Face masks at Sidmouth College: how to make it work

Here's what you and your child can expect now we are asking students at Sidmouth College to wear a face mask at all times apart from in lessons, assemblies and in social spaces.

When will my child need to wear a face mask at Sidmouth College?

Your child will need to wear a face mask at our College:

From Monday 12th October. We've decided to introduce this measure because we feel it's appropriate to keep everyone safe at the College, based on the latest guidance and COVID-19 data.

Where exactly will my child need to wear it in College?

They will need to wear it at all times on arrival at the College.

This will start from the time that they are waiting to come into the College and then at all times when they are in the College **apart** from in lessons, assemblies and in 'bubbled' social spaces.

What will my child need?

Your child needs to come to College with:

- A **face mask**. We'd recommend a reusable one so that they can use it more than once, as they'll need to take it on and off several times during the College day. If this isn't an option, they'll need to bring in several single-use face masks each day. Their face mask should be secured to their head using ear loops only.
 - Face masks must be plain or patterned. They **must not** contain a logo or motif. Bandanas are not allowed.
 - A **sealable plastic bag** to keep their face mask in when they're not using it so that it doesn't contaminate (or get contaminated by) other surfaces in College.
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Where can I get a face mask?

- Reusable and single-use face masks are available to buy in shops or online.
- We've included instructions below from the Government on how to make a cloth face mask.
- Supervise your child if they'll be making it themselves.



How should my child use their face mask?

- Their face mask needs to cover their nose and mouth when they're wearing it.
- They shouldn't touch the front of the face mask or the part that's touched their mouth or nose.
- Students should ensure good hand hygiene whilst using their face mask. They should store it in an individual, sealable plastic bag between uses.

How often will it need to be washed?

- Reusable face masks will need to be washed regularly.
- You can wash and dry reusable face masks with normal laundry – follow the washing instructions for the fabric and use normal detergent.

What if my child is exempt from wearing a face mask?

- They won't need to wear one in the College, you will be advised to obtain either an exemption lanyard or card.
- Please let us know by contacting your son / daughter's Head of House if your child [is exempt](#) so that we don't ask them to wear a face mask.

What if my child forgets their face mask?

- We'll have a small supply of spares available at the College.
- To be safe in the knowledge that everyone has one, please make sure your child has their own so that we can keep our supply of spares for emergencies.

It is important for the continued safety of students and staff that these new protective measures are followed. All staff at the College will be adhering to these new expectations. Any student who is not complying will be sanctioned using our behaviour policy and issued with a C1.10 (COVID-19) behavior point. Repeated C1.10 will result in a sanction including a phone call with parents.

Sources

- Face coverings in education, GOV.UK – DfE
- Face coverings: when to wear one and how to make your own, GOV.UK – DfE
- Guidance for full reopening, GOV.UK - DfE

