

**EDUCATION, PEOPLE & BUSINESS
DIRECTORATE**

JACQUI MACDONALD
Chief Education Officer
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26th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the recent directive of Scottish Government, pupils will require to wear face coverings in East Dunbartonshire schools from **Monday, 31st August 2020**, in the circumstances detailed below.

Any child wishing to wear a face covering in school should be permitted to do so. However face coverings should now be worn in the following circumstances:

- **where 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; and**
- **in line with the current arrangements for public transport, where adults and children and young people aged 5 and over are travelling on dedicated school transport.**

Face coverings should not generally be required in classrooms or other learning and teaching environments.

Face coverings are an additional measure to prevent the spread of infection and the other measures in place in schools will remain. This includes appropriate physical distancing, grouping of children to minimise contacts environmental cleaning, personal hand and respiratory hygiene. These remain vitally important to make our schools as safe as possible.

Schools will provide information to pupils on hygiene requirements for taking on and off the face covering and a leaflet will be provided for parents

A face covering can be a covering of any type that covers the mouth and nose. It is recommended that it be made of cloth or other textiles and should be two, and preferably three layers thick, and through which you can breathe.

We would ask parents to ensure their child has a face covering if they travel on school transport or attend secondary school or if appropriate Merkland or Campsie View. There will be a small stock available within the school if a child has forgotten their face covering or they do not have access to one.

If your child has a health condition or is disabled, including hidden disabilities, for example, autism, dementia or a learning disability, it may not be appropriate for them to wear a face covering. We would ask parents to contact the school to discuss this and arrangements will be made for them not to be required to wear a face covering.

As with school uniform, no child will be denied education if they are not wearing a face covering. However it is an important element of the measures to prevent the risk of infection and transmission within schools and so we would ask you to work with schools to support your child wearing a face covering in the circumstances detailed above.

Kind regards,

JACQUELINE MACDONALD

CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER