

HARROW HIGH SCHOOL

Gayton Road
Harrow
Middlesex
HA1 2JG



Headteacher: Mr. Paul Gamble

16th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the government's announcement of the latest London restrictions, and in line with other local schools, the wearing of face masks in school for learners and staff will be compulsory in communal areas and when queuing around school from Monday.

On Monday can you please ensure that your child brings a face mask and a small plastic bag for storage of the mask when not in use, to school. All face masks should be plain in colour. If your child is exempt from wearing a face mask, please send in a note to let us know the reason.

We attach a factsheet which we hope will answer your questions on how face coverings in school will work. We will go through this in detail with learners on Monday.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Gamble'.

Paul Gamble
Headteacher

Face coverings in schools: how to make it work

Here's what you and your child can expect now our learners will need to wear a face covering when moving through shared areas at school.

When will my child need to wear a face covering at school?

Your child will need to wear a face covering at our school from Monday 19th October 2020.

- We recommend reading this factsheet and buying a face covering for your child so you're prepared for Monday
 - We've decided to introduce this measure because we feel it's appropriate to keep everyone safe at school, based on the latest guidance
-

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

They'll need to wear it when they move through shared indoor areas of the school where it's difficult to stick to social distancing.

- Lining up on school site at the start of the day
- Walking around inside the building
- In the queue at lunch until they sit down to eat

They **won't** need to wear a face covering outside at breaktime/lunchtime or in their classroom.

If learners want to wear masks in lessons or outside, they can.

What will my child need?

Your child needs to come to school with:

- A **face covering**. 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 school day. If this isn't an option, they'll need to bring in several single-use face coverings each day. Their face covering should be secured to their head using ear loops only
 - A **sealable plastic bag** to keep their face covering in when they're not using it so that it doesn't contaminate (or get contaminated by) other surfaces in school
-

Where can I get a face covering?

Reusable and single-use face coverings are available to buy in shops or online

How should my child use their face covering?

- Their face covering needs to cover their nose and mouth when they're wearing it
- They shouldn't touch the front of the face covering or the part that's touched their mouth or nose
- They will sanitize their hands before going into lessons and remove it during Stand and Deliver. They will store it in an individual, sealable plastic bag between uses
- During Stand and Dismiss they will take out their masks from the bag by holding the loops and put the mask on. When they leave a classroom they will sanitize their hands upon exit from the room.

- If it becomes damp, they shouldn't wear it, and they should replace it carefully
 - Single-use face coverings should be disposed of after using it all day (in a bin in classrooms and around the school)
-

How often will it need to be washed?

- Reusable face coverings will need to be washed at the end of each day, ready for your child to wear the next day. Having multiple masks makes this easier but worn ones must be washed before being re-used
 - If your child has taken a spare reusable mask from school, this will also need to be washed before they use it again
 - You can wash and dry reusable face coverings with normal laundry – follow the washing instructions for the fabric and use normal detergent
-

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

- They won't need to wear one in school
 - Please let us know by sending your child in with a note explaining the reason why your child is exempt
-

What if my child forgets their face covering?

We'll have a small supply of spares available at school. As well as some plastic bags.

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

What if my child fails to follow school rules and staff instructions?

We ask everyone to respect the rules we put in place to keep everyone safe and to help the school run smoothly.

Staff will follow the normal behaviour policy inside lessons and around the school site for learners who refuse to follow instructions.

We will show care and understanding but detentions will be set for learners who do not follow our instructions. If this is repeated or very defiant then sanctions could increase in severity