

People Directorate

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Our Ref: EH/LJ

Your Ref:

Date: 26 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

UPDATED GUIDANCE: FACE COVERINGS

The Scottish Government has issued new guidance to schools about the use of face coverings. This will come into operation from Monday 31 August. These measures are being put in place as precautions and are based on the latest scientific advice.

Face coverings are not generally required in classrooms or other learning environments. However, they should be worn in the following situations (except if a young person is exempt from wearing a covering):

Secondary Schools

- In corridors when moving about the school and between classes
- In confined communal areas where physical distancing is particularly difficult to maintain, for example, toilets
- In busy communal areas such as the crush area or dinner hall

For children and young people 5 years and over

- On school transport (this is now in line with the rules for public transport)

Most children and young people will now have access to re-usable face coverings due to their increased use in wider society.

From Monday 31 August face masks will be seen as part of the secondary school uniform, please ensure your child comes to school with a face covering so that they can follow these new health and safety measures. Anybody struggling to access a face covering, or where they have forgotten to bring one or if it has become soiled/unsafe, can get a disposable one for a short period until they get one of their own. If your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, please contact their guidance teacher.

www.girvanacademy.sayr.sch.uk

Safe Use of Face Coverings

It is really important that young people know how to put on, remove, store and dispose of face coverings safely, to avoid inadvertently increasing the risks of transmission. Please go over these key points with your child. We will be reinforcing them regularly at school too.

- Face coverings should not be shared with others.
- Before putting on or removing the face covering, hands should be cleaned by washing with soap and water or hand sanitiser.
- The face covering should cover the nose, mouth and chin.
- They should not touch the front of the mask or pull it under the chin.
- When temporarily storing a face covering (e.g. during classes), it should be placed in a washable, sealed bag or container.
- Avoid placing the face covering on surfaces, due to the possibility of contamination.
- Re-usable face coverings should be washed after each day of use in school.
- Disposable face coverings must be disposed of safely and hygienically in a bin.

Once again, thank you for your support and for reinforcing these important health and safety measures with your child.

Yours faithfully



Elaine Harrigan
Head Teacher