

FACE COVERINGS



Since **1 September 2020** the wearing of a face covering has been **required** in all shared indoor University spaces, including while moving through buildings and within teaching, learning and study environments. For full details on when the wearing of a face covering is currently required, strongly advised, and the exceptional circumstances when wearing will not be required, please refer to the **University's Covid-19 Secure Policy**.

The University considers that the responsibility for wearing a face covering sits with individuals and we expect all our staff and students to adhere to this requirement where possible.

Please be mindful and respectful towards members of our community who, due to exceptional circumstances, may be unable to wear a face covering; their reasons for this may not be visible to others.

When wearing your face covering, remember to:

- Minimise proximity to others by social distancing from anyone you do not live with.
- Wash your hands frequently using warm water and soap or apply hand sanitiser, and before putting on or taking off your face covering.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Do not remove your face covering if you need to cough or sneeze.

- Only wear a face visor/shield in addition to a face covering, as worn alone a face visor does not adequately cover the nose and mouth.

When choosing what face covering to wear, please consider:

- It needs to fit closely over your nose, cheeks and chin. It is important that most of the air you breathe in and out flows through the mask rather than through gaps at the sides, top or bottom.
- It needs to stay in place during talking and moving, so it can be worn without slipping and so it does not require you to touch it frequently.
- A mask that is frequently pulled down to breathe or talk, or is worn under the nose, is not effective.
- If you wear glasses, a flexible nose bridge which conforms to your face may help to prevent fogging.
- Masks with vents or exhalation valves are not advised because they allow unfiltered breath to escape the mask.
- The World Health Organisation has a short video on **fitting a mask/covering properly** and suggests that fabric coverings should be made of **three layers**.
- Independent tests by 'Which' may also assist with your **choice of face covering**.

For further guidance on face coverings, refer to the **UK Government guidance**.



To find out more, visit: surrey.ac.uk/coronavirus