

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Please ask for: School Transport

Direct Line/Extension:

E-mail: schooltransport@herefordshire.gov.uk

1 December 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Face coverings on school and college transport

We are writing to advise you of an update to the Government's guidance on the wearing of face coverings on school and college transport due to come in to effect on 2 December.

The guidance states:

*It is the law that children and young people aged 11 and over must wear a face covering on public transport. PHE advises that children and young people aged 11 and over **must also now** wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated transport to secondary school or college. This does not apply to those who are exempt from wearing a face covering on public transport.*

In updating the guidance the Department for Education has contacted Local Authorities to explain "This guidance change clarifies our message – face coverings are an important measure in reducing the transmission of coronavirus, particularly in enclosed spaces where social distancing is difficult to maintain."

This change in the guidance means that from 2 December, as a condition of travel on dedicated transport, you must ensure that your child wears a face covering for the whole of their journey to and from school or college, unless they are exempt.

We will be working jointly with schools, colleges and transport operators to monitor compliance.

If you require more information about face coverings or you would like to read the latest information on the coronavirus you may find the following websites helpful:

For Government advice on face coverings, including how to make one please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

The latest school transport information relating to the coronavirus visit:

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schooltransportcovid19For advice on the coronavirus visit: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/coronavirusFor the latest Government advice on the coronavirus pandemic visit: www.gov.uk/coronavirus**School Transport Team**
Herefordshire Council