



Founded 1834

Arbory School

Headteacher: Mr J H Ayres BEd(Hons) NPQH

"A caring community of creative, confident learners."
"Co-phobble kenjal dy ynseydee chrootagh as yarrooagh."



30.11.2021

Dear Parents,

Please see the updated guidance from DESC below.

Re: Face coverings expected to be worn in educational settings

I am sure you will have heard the Chief Minister announce in his press conference on Sunday 28 November, that from 04:00 on Tuesday 30 November, all staff (primary, secondary and UCM), all secondary and UCM students and all visitors will be expected to wear face coverings in all of the Island's educational settings. This includes attendance at concerts, prize giving's and after school events. Although Primary School children will not be expected to wear face coverings, it is encouraged that year 5 and 6 do so.

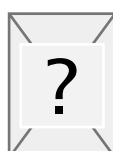
The wearing of face coverings on public transport has been made mandatory from Tuesday 30 November, therefore it is mandatory for all staff, students and volunteers (within secondary & UCM) to wear a face covering when travelling on school transport.

Face coverings play an important role in protecting others from any circulating winter illnesses, and will be most effective if everyone plays their part. We will ensure that face coverings are provided to anyone that does not have their own.

Ballabeg Isle of Man IM9 4LH

Scoill Chairbre Bailey Beg Mannin IM9 4LH

T(01624) 823369 E arboryenquiries@sch.im W <https://arbory.sch.im/>



Other Mitigations in place

- All educational settings continue to implement measures to support hands, face, space and fresh air.
- All staff plus secondary and UCM students are encouraged to continue to test for COVID-19 at least twice a week [using free lateral flow test kits](#) and to 'know before you go', to protect themselves and others
- Any children suffering from any Covid symptoms must NOT be sent into School. If in any doubt, children suffering from symptoms should be kept off school and you should seek advice from the 111 or arrange a [PCR test online](#). Further details about symptoms and what to do can be found on the Government Covid website at: <https://covid19.gov.im/about-coronavirus/symptoms-and-self-assessment/>
- In the event of a pupil or member of staff becoming unwell whilst within an education setting, a clear protocol to isolate them and arrange for collection will be followed.

Ensuring our schools are as safe as possible for both our staff and students, as well as maintaining face to face learning to minimise the disruption caused to our students are still our key priorities but it must be emphasised that in order to do this we should all work together to keep COVID-19 out of our educational settings and the community.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and understanding. We know that these times are difficult, but we know that you will work with us in partnership to help our students understand and help us to implement the mitigations set out above.

Useful Health & Well-being Resources:

The pandemic has caused a lot of changes for our children and young adults – from schools and exams, to socialising and future plans.

The Department of Education Sport and Culture have collected these resources to help you, or a young person you to know to navigate these difficult times.

[Anxiety & Coronavirus:](#) Department of Education Sport and Culture document, designed to provide guidance and support for families, children and young people

[Anna Freud Advice for Young People to Support their Mental Health:](#) Helping children, young people and their families during the current pandemic

[Advice for Parents and Carers:](#) Advice and guidance for parents and carers on how to support wellbeing during the current pandemic

[On My Mind:](#) Details self-care strategies to help children and young people manage their wellbeing

A number of other resources are available including the 'Are you ok?' survey and tips:

<https://covid19.gov.im/health-and-wellbeing/>

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Ayres
Headteacher