

Protocol for wearing face coverings in College

Last reviewed: 12 May 2021 by COVID Operations Working Group

Effective from 17 May 2021

Author: Senior Tutor and Bursar

In general, Sidney Sussex College remains closed to visitors and guests¹ as a result of the pandemic situation. Exceptions to this are set out in the [protocol for visitors and guests](#).

Please note that the information outlined in this protocol is subject to change and will be continually reviewed in accordance with the latest Government and University guidance.

1. Contents

1. Contents.....	1
2. Introduction	1
3. General information	2
4. Where to wear face coverings	2
Inside College buildings.....	2
Household isolation	2
External areas.....	3
5. Summary.....	3

2. Introduction

College planning is centred on keeping our members and the wider community safe and well by reducing the risk of transmission through a series of protocols.

Current members and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines, and must carry and wear a face covering (unless exempt) at all times, in the circumstances set out in this protocol

Discover more about the role of face coverings in reducing the transmission of COVID-19, information about those who are exempt from wearing face coverings, and related national guidelines on the [Government website](#).

This protocol will be continually reviewed as we move forward in line with the latest [Government COVID-19 guidance](#) and [University COVID-19 guidance](#).

¹ "Visitors and guests" refers to any individual who is seeking to visit the College and is not a current Sidney student, Fellow, other academic staff member, or staff member.



3. General information

Anyone in the College site must carry a face covering at all times and wear it when required to do so by these regulations.

In the event that a current member or visitor has mislaid or forgotten to carry a face covering, they can be picked up and purchased from the Porters' Lodge. Current members are encouraged to keep a small stock of spare face coverings in their room or office.

For environmental reasons, all members of College are encouraged to wear reusable washable face coverings where possible, rather than disposable face coverings.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided to members who have high levels of contact with other members.

4. Where to wear face coverings

Inside College buildings

In general, unless provided otherwise in the specific circumstances described below, members should wear face coverings in all indoor settings, unless in a single occupancy room with a closed door, or if they have a medical exemption.

In particular, face coverings **are required to be worn** in shared communal spaces such as the Library, shared study spaces, post-room, Porter's Lodge, cafeteria and dining halls (unless seated at a table to eat/drink).

Face coverings **do not need to be worn** in a member's personal living space, "household" (although see section on households in isolation below), or a single occupancy closed door room for work or study purposes.

Within a shared office face coverings **should be worn, unless** there are 6 or fewer occupants in the room, there is prior agreement of all the occupants, the room is well ventilated and a distance of 2m can be maintained between occupants from different households.

Households in isolation

Students sharing a household with a symptomatic or COVID-positive student will be required to wear a face covering when moving around their shared accommodation area, and inside their kitchen, but not when within their own private room. COVID-positive students will be required to self-isolate as per the College's [Protocol for self-isolation, household-isolation and quarantine in College](#)



External areas

Many external areas of the College have tight spaces and narrow passageways. To keep College members and visitors as safe as possible and to help reduce the threat of transmission, face coverings are **encouraged to be worn** in the main College courtyards.

In particular, face coverings **should be worn** when queuing outside to enter the cafeteria.

Face coverings are **not required to be worn** when working, socialising, exercising or sitting in the College gardens, or when seated at a table in the College bar in Cloister Court.

5. Summary

✓ REQUIRED	X NOT REQUIRED
<p><u>College Buildings</u></p> <p>✓ Inside all College buildings (Exceptions are noted in the next column)</p>	<p>X In your personal living space, “household”, or single occupancy closed door office work or study space (for Fellows, staff and students)</p> <p>X Within a shared office, or when attending an indoor supervision, <u>provided that</u> the specified conditions set out in this protocol are met</p> <p>X Inside in a dining area when seated and eating or drinking</p> <p>X If you have a medical exemption</p>
<p><u>Households in isolation</u></p> <p>✓ Inside a shared accommodation area (including kitchen)</p>	<p>X In your own private room</p> <p>X If you have a medical exemption</p>
<p><u>College Grounds</u></p> <p>✓ Queuing outside to enter cafeteria</p> <p>✓ Passing through College courtyards (encouraged, not required)</p>	<p>X When seated at Sidney Bar in Cloister Court</p> <p>X In the College gardens</p> <p>X If you have a medical exemption</p>