Protocol for wearing face coverings in College

Last reviewed: 24 September 2020
Next review: October 2020

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.

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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 at all times, and must wear a face covering in many areas of College. 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.

Everyone in College should carry face coverings (unless exempt) and wear these in the areas outlined below.

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.
General information

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 your 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.

Where to wear face coverings

You should wear a face covering in areas outlined below (unless exempt). Please note that face coverings must be worn at all times in these areas.

In any College building

When indoors in any College building which is not your personal living space, “household”, or office work space (for staff).

In a teaching environment

Please refer to the supervisions and academic meetings protocol for more information about wearing face coverings in a teaching environment.

In the Mong servery/dining hall or Sidney Bar

Note that you must wear a face covering at all times in the Mong Servery/Dining Hall and Sidney Bar, except when seated to eat or drink.

Recreational activity

There will be instances where it is not necessary to wear a face covering (ie when singing in the Choir or exercising in the gym). Members and visitors will be kept informed of the protocol in any such instances, but please do keep a face covering on your person at all times (assuming it is safe and possible for you to wear a face covering).

Household isolation

Students sharing a household with a symptomatic or COVID-positive student will not be required to wear a face covering when moving around their accommodation area and inside their kitchen. COVID-positive students will be required to self-isolate as per the College's Rules and support for quarantine and self-isolation (accessible on Moodle).
In any external area **except** when sitting or socialising in the College gardens or accessing a car park

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

Exceptions to this include (members must follow [social distancing guidelines](#) at all times):

- socialising whilst sitting in the Fellows’ Gardens;
- socialising whilst sitting in Cloister Court;
- accessing a car park.

Note that face coverings should be worn whilst walking to and from these areas, but they are not required whilst you are socialising or relaxing in the gardens or accessing a car park.

For the avoidance of doubt this means that face coverings **should** be worn in the areas outlined below.

- On entering College through the front gate from Sidney Street, from Kings Street car park, or through the Jesus Lane entrance to Cloister Court.
- In all areas of Hall Court.
- In all areas of Chapel Court.
- In all areas of Cloister Court (unless sitting or socialising following [social distancing guidelines](#) in the gardens).
- In all the paths around Blundell Court, Garden Court, South Court, Mong Hall, Sidney House etc.

## Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>✔ REQUIRED</th>
<th>✗ NOT REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All College buildings and external areas</td>
<td>In your personal living space, “household”, or office work space (for Fellows and staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptions are noted in the next column.</td>
<td>Socialising or relaxing whilst seated in the College gardens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>In the Sidney Bar or in a dining area</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Some recreational activity</td>
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<td>Car parks</td>
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