

About face coverings and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

A face covering is something that safely covers the nose and mouth, and is intended to protect others, not the wearer against the spread of infection.

A PPE face mask is worn in a limited number of situations to protect the wearer. The packaging should list what type of face mask it is. When using face masks as PPE, this must be a Type IIR which is a fluid resistant surgical face mask.


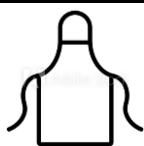



- ✓ Always call ahead of a home visit to check if there is anyone shielding or isolating at the property (see the Home Visits guidance).
- ✓ If residents fail to keep a 2m social distance despite reminders, the Council supports staff to leave the home.
- ✓ Risk assess where potential hazardous substances may be encountered and ensure any additional requirements are followed.

What items of PPE do I need to use?	Face covering	Type IIR surgical face mask	Disposable gloves	Disposable apron	Eye protection
Shielding Essential visit to a home where anyone in the household is in the extremely clinically vulnerable (shielding) group.	X	✓*	✓	✓	X
COVID Hotzone Essential visit to a home where anyone in the household has symptoms of Covid-19 or has received a positive test result in the last 14 days.	X	✓*	✓	✓	Risk assess and use where chance of body fluids entering the eye
Providing personal care Including to children or young people with disabilities.	X	✓*	✓	✓	Risk assess and use where chance of body fluids entering the eye
Unable to social distance Not possible to maintain 2 metre social distance at all times. Ask your manager if you are unsure. For some teams, this approach will always be needed.	X	✓*	X	X	X
None of the above No one has COVID or is shielding, and you can maintain 2 metre social distance at all times	✓♦	X	X	X	X











* Should be changed in between home visits

♦ Follow guidance issued by your service area if you have been instructed to wear a surgical facemask

How to put on PPE

1	2	3	4	5
Wash hands or sanitise.	Put on apron if required. Make sure it is tied securely at the back.	Put on mask. Make sure it is tied securely. Position so it covers both nose and mouth.	Put on eye protection if required.	Put on gloves if required.
				

How to remove PPE

1	2	3	4	5
Have a waste bag ready.	Remove gloves. Grasp the outside cuff of the glove and peel off. When removing your second glove, insert your finger underneath and peel off. Put in waste bag.	Wash hands or sanitise.	Snap or unfasten apron ties at the neck , and allow to fall forward.	Snap apron waist ties. Fold apron in on itself. Put in waste bag.
				
6	7	8	9	10
Wash hands or sanitise.	Remove eye protection if worn.	Wash hands or sanitise.	Remove mask.	Wash hands or sanitise.
				

When wearing PPE:

DO:

- ✓ Organise your breaks to minimise removal and replacement of PPE.
- ✓ Ensure ALL PPE is removed when you take your break.
- ✓ Make sure you eat and drink enough; wearing PPE can get hot.
- ✓ Practice good hand hygiene. If masks are touched or adjusted, hand hygiene should be performed immediately.
- ✓ Always use new PPE before seeing any clients who are shielding or where anyone in their household is shielding.

DON'T:

- ✗ Don't remove PPE and then put it back on (e.g. after a toilet break or eating/drinking).
- ✗ Don't hang your mask on your neck or on your head. If the mask is removed from your mouth it must be disposed of and replaced.
- ✗ Don't touch your face especially if wearing gloves.
- ✗ Don't wear facemasks or goggles between residents' homes unless it is safe to do so and you won't need to remove this, for example, to use your phone.

How to obtain PPE supplies

Some services are eligible for free PPE supplies through the national government portal, check [guidance](#).

All other council teams should use the [PPE Request Form](#).

For further information email ppe-requests@camden.gov.uk.