

Policy on the use of face coverings for learners

- BCIS learners must comply with the government guidance on face coverings in education at all times
- Learners can wear face coverings at their discretion. It is recommended that face coverings are only worn in indoor communal areas where social distancing cannot be safely observed
- Learners who are wearing face coverings when they arrive will need to remove their face covering so their identity can be checked. If you want to continue wearing a face covering on entering the building you will be given a disposable medical grade face covering which will be available at reception
- Learners working in studios are asked to wear face coverings apart from when they are doing vocal performances
- It is vital that face coverings are worn correctly and that all learners follow the guidance on how to put on, remove, store and dispose of face coverings to avoid inadvertently increasing the risks of transmission
- Safe wearing of face coverings requires cleaning of hands before and after touching – including removing or putting them on – and the safe storage of them in individual, sealable plastic bags between use. Where a face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn and the face covering should be replaced carefully
- On the basis of current evidence, face coverings will not generally be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible. Face coverings can have a negative impact on learning and teaching and so their use in the classroom should be avoided.
- If you feel strongly that you want to wear a face covering in class this will be allowed, however it will have to be a medical grade face covering supplied by BCT / BCIS for learners,
- If you have a medical reason why you are not able to wear a mask we ask that this be communicated by emailing: **coronavirusreporting@bigcreative.education**