



Covid-19 Expectations & Protocols

January 2022



The following information is aimed at providing a consistent approach to the operating of DCC during the new Covid-19 measures implemented in January 2022. This document aims to clarify our expectations of all students when accessing education at Denton Community College. These expectations address the systems, procedures and behaviours we expect students to adhere to whilst in school to ensure the safety of all stakeholders is maintained.

EXISTING POLICIES

Please note that this document has been developed to support our existing school policies (available [here](#)) to ensure the health and safety of all stakeholders is maintained at all times. This document will be used to support and underpin our existing policies in response to the Covid-19 government guidance for schools. Where appropriate the systems, procedures and responses set out in this document will supersede those in the original policy.

JOURNEYING TO & FROM SCHOOL

- Wherever possible students should travel to and from school on foot or by bicycle.
- Where this is not possible and public transport is to be used students must remember that currently in England facemasks must be worn at all times, unless exempt on medical grounds.
- Students who use the school buses must remember that currently in England facemasks must be worn at all times, unless exempt on medical grounds.
- When visiting shops and retail establishments on the way to school students must remember that currently in England facemasks must be worn at all times, unless exempt on medical grounds.
- When travelling to and from school students should remember that they are ambassadors for the school and must behave in an appropriate manner at all times.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

- On arrival at school students will not be admitted into the school building before 8.30am.
- Students should access the school grounds via the Taylor Lane and Crown Point North entrances (please note that the Crown Point North entrance will be locked at 8.40am).
- Once students have arrived on the school site they should remain in the school yard and when invited to do so only access the building via their Homepage doors. They should not use the external doors that access the Boulevard directly.
- Whilst waiting to enter the building students should give consider the wellbeing of their peers and adhere to social distancing guidance wherever possible.
- Whilst accidental contact is inevitable, deliberate unwanted physical contact is not acceptable. The 'Only Messing' & 'It was just a laugh' excuses will not be tolerated.
- Students should put their facemasks on before they enter the building. Please ensure your child has a facemask with them when they come to school.
- Upon entering the building students should make arrangements to wash and/or sanitise their hands at the earliest opportunity.
- The first lesson of the day will start promptly at 8.40am. This is a lesson not registration so students arriving late to school will be late to learning.

MASKS / FACE COVERINGS

- Current government guidance says that face coverings should be worn at all times when in the building due to the health and safety risk posed by Covid-19. This now includes classrooms, dining areas and when movement around the building.
- It is therefore our expectation that **all** students will wear a face covering unless they are medically exempt. Any students not wearing a mask will be deemed to be posing a risk to the health and safety of others and is therefore in breach of our behaviour policy.
- Please ensure students bring a suitable facemask to school, which covers their nose and mouth securely.
- Students should clean their hands after touching their mask.
- If students wish to bring a small bottle of hand sanitiser to school they can do so.

- Face coverings should be plain with no visible logos or patterns. Anyone with an inappropriate mask will be asked to remove it and will have to wear one given to them by school.
- Students must not remove or loosen a facemask to talk to someone as this will stop the mask from working.
- If students have a medical reason for not wearing a mask, please contact their form tutor or Head of Year as soon as possible to ensure our records are up to date.
- Anyone messing around with facemasks will be considered to be posing a risk to the health & safety of others and is therefore in breach of our behaviour policy.

IN CLASSROOMS

- When students arrive at their classroom they must wait outside until invited to enter by a member of staff.
- Upon entry students must use the hand sanitiser located on the wall by the door, inside each classroom.
- Each teacher will have a seating plan and students will be allocated a seat accordingly (the allocation of seats is non-negotiable).
- Students must remain in their seat at all times unless they are invited to move by their teacher.
- Whilst contact with other students is inevitable, deliberate unwanted physical contact is not acceptable. The 'Only Messing' & 'It was just a laugh' excuses will not be tolerated.
- Students must not leave the classroom during the lesson unless directed to do so by their teacher. Any student found out of their classroom without permission potentially poses a risk to the health and safety of others and is therefore in breach of our behaviour policy.
- When the lesson ends students must not leave the classroom until invited to do so by their teacher following the awarding of Be DCC points.

MOVEMENT AND SANITISATION BREAK

- There are two movement and sanitisation breaks of 10 minutes each day. These are between lessons 1 & 2 and then 3 & 4.
- During this time students will be expected to use the toilet if required, eat and drink any snacks they have brought with them, wash and re-sanitise their hands and move to their next lesson by the shortest route in order to minimise contact with other year groups.
- Students must wear their face coverings at all times during the movement and sanitisation break.
- Students are expected to be at their next classroom when the bell sounds at the end of the movement and sanitisation break.
- When using the toilets students should not congregate in large groups. They should use the facilities, wash their hands and move on to their next lesson.
- When students congregate in toilet areas this can be intimidating to other students. This can also pose a risk to the health and safety of others and is therefore in breach of our behaviour policy.

LUNCH TIME

- Lunchtime is an opportunity for students to use the toilets, wash and sanitise their hands as well as eat their dinner.
- Each year group has their own designated eating area and students are expected to remain in these areas or their Homebase if eating their lunch inside.
- Year groups have their own designated outdoor space which is accessible throughout lunch time.
- It is expected that students wear facemasks when queuing, ordering and paying for their food. They should only remove their mask when seated and eating their food.
- Once students have finished eating they are expected to put their facemasks back on and make their way outside, where the risk of transmission is greatly reduced.
- Students must not eat in areas designated for other year groups, visit or use the toilets in other Homebases at lunch time. If students are found outside of their designated areas, it poses a potential risk to the health and safety of others and is therefore in breach of our behaviour policy.
- Students must not access areas on the Non-Homebase side of the building during lunch.
- Students are expected to be at their next lesson at the end of lunchtime.
- Before students re-enter the building at the end of lunch time, they should ensure they are wearing their face coverings.

WHAT IF A STUDENT IS UNWELL?

- If any student shows symptoms of having Covid-19 whilst in school we will not take any chances. They must go home and be booked in for a PCR test. We expect parents and carers to work with us in all cases.
- If a student or one of their friends feels like they have any of the symptoms, they must immediately inform a member of staff.
- They will be moved by a First Aider to a space away from other students and parents will be called to collect them.
- If they need the toilet whilst unwell one will be made available. There will be no further use of that toilet until it has been thoroughly cleaned and sanitised by the site team.
- The student must only go where directed by the member of staff.
- The student must be booked in for a test as soon as possible.
- The student will not be allowed back into school until their result is known and any isolation period is complete.
- If a student has any symptoms they must **not** come into school.
- School will inform Public Health of any confirmed case.
- If a student later says they were claiming to have symptoms as a 'joke' or they were 'faking it' they will still not be allowed back into school until their result is known and any isolation period is complete. Once they are back, it will be dealt with as a breach of health and safety and therefore a serious behaviour issue.

Please Note:

These expectations and the guidance set out in this document is aimed at ensuring the health and safety of stakeholders (students and staff) is maintained at all times.

If at any time the actions of students contradicts the expectations and instructions set out in this document, will it be considered a deliberate risk to the health and safety of others and therefore a breach of our behaviour policy. The parents / carers of students will be contacted and a suitable sanction applied which may include a fixed-term exclusion.