



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Student Disability Service

Making learning accessible to students who are deaf or have a hearing loss

Strategies where face coverings are required in class

For context, see the relevant section of this advice to staff:
<https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/covid-19/hygiene-and-health>

Remove face covering when possible/safe to do so

Where this is not possible, try transparent mask with anti-fog spray, as per the hygiene and health guidance. This will still not be perfect, so it will be helpful to also try these strategies:

- Ensuring that the teaching room is as quiet as possible – consider change of room if necessary/possible
- Checking if lighting in the room causes specific difficulty with reflections on transparent masks
- Making it easy for the student to sit near the front (without drawing attention to them)
- Encouraging all students to say if they miss information or want anything repeated – it will be really helpful for the student to know it's normal and not a nuisance
- Writing down key points on the board
- Trying to discuss with the students after class how well they were able to follow and contribute to class, again with drawing attention to them. It's an opportunity to agree any further strategies as relevant.

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