



# FOODCYCLE CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

## Face Coverings and Volunteering Policy

**In line with government updated guidance from 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020 all FoodCycle Volunteers will need to wear face coverings in the following circumstances:**

- If you are inside and unable to keep a 2-meter distance from others (i.e. in our venues, when cooking or prepping bags) wear a face covering
- If you are going into shops or enclosed spaces to collect surplus food wear a face covering
- If you are outside whilst volunteering and unable to keep 2 meters apart (i.e. managing guest collection queues during our cook and collect service, or putting on bike trailers with fellow volunteers) wear a face covering

### **Why have FoodCycle made this change?**

We at FoodCycle are all about building our communities and supporting others. Face coverings help us protect others, such as our guests and fellow volunteers. Evidence now shows that wearing of face coverings reduces the chance of transmission to other people.

Although social distancing and hand washing are the most important and effective thing we can all do to prevent the spread of coronavirus, the wearing of face coverings adds to that protection. Wearing of face coverings in spaces where we cannot keep two metres apart or in enclosed spaces ensures that we are all doing our part to protect others around us.

### **Who will provide the face coverings / masks?**

At every project FoodCycle will make available disposable facemasks for volunteers to use. If you would prefer to use your own face covering that is fine, but it must cover your face and nose. If you would prefer to use a reusable face covering, you already own that is no problem – the key is to wear one in the circumstances described above. You can in true FoodCycle fashion repurpose material and make your own.

### **How many times can you wear a disposable mask?**

You should only wear disposable face covering once.



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## **How clean do your hands need to be before touching your mask?**

Before you put the mask on, wash your hands. Best practice is to take the mask off from the straps rather than the front.

## **How do you prevent your glasses from steaming up?**

Top Tip! Submerge your glasses in soapy water and then let them dry by themselves, creating a thin antifog layer on the lenses. Face visors for kitchens will be available if masks feel too hot when cooking.

## **How often should you wash a reusable face covering?**

Treat your face covering the same way as you treat your socks or underpants! It's good to have a spare mask so you can have one being washed and wear the other one the next day.

## **Who shouldn't wear one?**

There are exemptions for some people with health conditions or disabilities and people who assist them, if you think that is you please contact your regional manager on [projects@foodcycle.org.uk](mailto:projects@foodcycle.org.uk). For example, if you are volunteering with someone who relies on lip-reading, you are not required to wear a mask. Asthma UK advises people with asthma to try a few different face coverings to see if they can find one that works for them.

## **Do I have to adhere to other COVID-19 hygiene practices if I am wearing a face covering?**

Yes! Although face coverings are additional help to tackle the spread of infection, hand washing, cleaning practices and maintaining social distance are still the best way to stop the spread. Face coverings do not replace these practices.