














# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

## A Guide For Service Users

The diagram below is to support you to understand what to expect from care staff when they are supporting you (or your loved one). We have broken down the most common tasks we support with and explained which PPE items are required to do this. If you have any questions or queries regarding the use of PPE by our staff please do not hesitate to speak with staff or a manager.

TASK	PPE REQUIRED or PROTECTION MEASURE	COMMENTS & FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>ALL TASKS</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carers should wear facemasks for <b>ALL</b> care visits and at all times when interacting with service users.</li> <li>• Carers should wear their facemasks appropriately. This means it should cover their whole mouth and nose and the blue side of the mask should face outwards.</li> <li>• Carers should not touch their facemask, rest it on their chin or head or move it out of the way to talk.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Preparing Meals, Drinks &amp; Snacks</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When making sandwiches, drinks, breakfast meals or any other light snacks carers must ensure they have followed effective hand hygiene measures by washing their hands or using alcohol based hand gel.</li> <li>• Providing hand-hygiene measures have been followed then staff are not required to wear gloves for the handling of food in your home.</li> <li>• Staff will need to use your washing facilities to wash their hands. This includes your sink, soap and kitchen towel/roll.</li> <li>• Please be aware that staff may also use hand gel and this may be applied before carers come into your flat.</li> <li>• You can ask a carer to wash their hands in front of you if you would prefer.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Supporting with Tablet Medication</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carers should wash their hands before supporting you to take tablets.</li> <li>• Gloves are not required for supporting you with tablets as carers do not touch the medication.</li> <li>• Please be aware that staff may also use hand gel and this may be applied before carers come into your flat.</li> <li>• You can ask a carer to wash their hands in front of you if you would prefer.</li> </ul>

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 <p data-bbox="176 432 389 464"><b>Applying Creams</b></p>		<ul data-bbox="1104 245 2152 421" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carers should wear a facemask, gloves and an apron when applying creams to anywhere on your body. This is because they have to come closer than 2m to you for a slightly longer period.</li> <li>• If they apply more than one cream they should put a fresh set of gloves on for each one.</li> </ul>
 <p data-bbox="132 699 434 727"><b>Administering Eye Drops</b></p>		<ul data-bbox="1104 493 2141 708" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carers should wash their hands before supporting you to take eyedrops.</li> <li>• If you are able to hold your eyes open then carers will not need gloves as they are not making contact with you.</li> <li>• Carers should wear a facemask when administering your eye drops.</li> <li>• If you are unable to hold your eye open and require staff to do this for you then they will require gloves also.</li> </ul>
 <p data-bbox="71 995 495 1059"><b>Support with washing/showering/ continence or toileting</b></p>		<ul data-bbox="1104 791 2152 1007" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When supporting with personal care be this washing at the sink, showering or having a bath staff should don full PPE which is gloves, apron and facemask.</li> <li>• If staff support with continence or toilet care they should wear a new pair of gloves when switching from continence care to any other type of care.</li> <li>• Staff should also wear all of this PPE if they are supporting you to shave or to provide any other personal care task.</li> </ul>
 <p data-bbox="105 1326 461 1358"><b>Support with getting dressed</b></p>		<ul data-bbox="1104 1163 2163 1267" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When supporting you to get dressed staff should wear gloves, an apron and a facemask. This is because they are in close proximity to you for a sustained amount of time and may need to touch several parts of you whilst helping you to dress.</li> </ul>