# Sunniside GP Surgery

# Protocol for mask wearing in the surgery

## Document Control

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### B. Document Details

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Following new guidance issued by NHS England which has suggested mask wearing should continue in healthcare settings where there are vulnerable patients.

The surgery requires adult patients and visitors to continue to wear a mask when visiting the practice. The team have carried out a risk assessment and found that due to vulnerable patients attending daily alongside people with respiratory conditions we should continue with mask wearing, this will help to protect patients against the spread of Covid-19 and assist to keep patients safe. The assessment also highlighted due to multiple untriaged patients and visitors that attend daily and the limitations with space in the building to separate high-risk patients in a separate waiting area, mask would be a sensible measure to keep in place.

We appreciate that adults with autism or learning disability may not be able to tolerate wearing a face mask and there is no requirement for them to do so. Interpreters often wear transparent face masks to allow for easier lip reading but we recognise that lowering face masks for Deaf or hearing-impaired patients may be necessary to ease understanding and health care professionals will do the same if it becomes apparent that this is necessary to aid communication.

Should you require further advice or information please contact the practice manager Mrs Hay

We are grateful to everyone for all the support and compliance with the safety measures in place at Sunniside