



## Update on Infection Control Classrooms and Clinics – Effective 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The use of PPE in the classroom and clinic environment has been reviewed for Autumn 2023.

### PPE

**Mask Use** Masks are no longer routinely required during treatment apart from in the following circumstances:

- The student, tutor, patient or model patient wishes to wear one
- The patient or model patient wants all people involved in their treatment to wear one. This includes observing students
- The student, tutor, patient or model patient has a non infectious cough

All patients and model patients must be given the opportunity to wear a mask during their consultation and treatment. Reception teams are to offer patients a mask on arrival at clinic.

**Visors** Visors should be bought to each clinic session. They are useful if an aerosol may be produced during treatment.

**Disposable Aprons** The wearing of these is now optional. Given the close nature of Osteopathic treatment you may wish to wear them to protect your clothing.

**Disposable Gloves** The wearing of gloves is only compulsory if you are examining the nose or mouth, the patient has broken skin in an area you are likely to come into contact with, or you have broken skin on your hands.

Gloves and aprons must be removed and put in the bin before you leave the consulting room.

### MITIGATION IN CLINICS

Many of the mitigations put in place during the COVID pandemic are valuable in reducing transmission of various types of infection, so we have kept these in place.

Our teaching venues will have their own mitigations in place. Please follow guidelines published by them.

**Hand hygiene** Please wash your hands regularly with soap and water. Soap and water must be used before and after patient/model treatment. Hand gel is available, for sanitisation of clean hands in between washing them.

**Clinical wipes** Hard surface disinfecting wipes are to be used to wipe down all touch points in the clinic. Please wipe down couches, desks, door plates/handles, light switches and clinical equipment before and after treatment and after touching them in communal areas.

13 Furzehill Road, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire. WD6 2DG  
Tel: 020 8905 1937

Email: [admin@collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk](mailto:admin@collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk) [www.collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk](http://www.collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk)  
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Ventilation	Windows are to be opened in areas that have them. Opening high windows where possible will ventilate the area without chilling the occupants too much. We appreciate during Winter it may be cold, so we have auxiliary heating which can be used if necessary.
HEPA filters	There are Dyson HEPA filters in areas that either do not have windows, or are rooms where several people may congregate. These must be on the whole time the clinic is occupied. For them to work correctly the doors must be shut.
Social distancing	Please use all the rooms available to you, to maintain as much distance as possible between yourselves and others.
Feeling unwell?	If you are unwell, please do not attend clinic or teaching sessions.