

FACE COVERINGS AND DEAFNESS

University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion team shares some tips for communicating with deaf colleagues and students when face masks and coverings are being worn.



KEEP IT CLEAR

If you choose to wear a mask with a clear panel so your mouth is visible or a clear eye shield, make sure you pronounce your words clearly.

WRITE IT DOWN

If speech isn't working, write it down or use a text message.

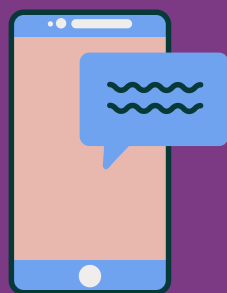


FIND A QUIET PLACE

This will make it easier to hear, especially if technology is used to support hearing.

BE PATIENT

Be flexible, creative and most of all patient in how you communicate.



USE AN APP

There are mobile apps that can translate speech into text - why not try one?

MOVE YOUR MASK

If you are alone and keeping a safe distance, you can temporarily move your mask so that the individual can see your lips.



SUNFLOWER LANYARD

Some disabilities are hidden and not immediately obvious. The sunflower lanyard is a discreet way to indicate you have a hidden disability. If you see someone wearing one, acknowledge it and adapt your behaviour appropriately.