Quick Reference Guide for Cremation and Burials

Please remember - when interacting with people always...



Specific PPE over and above routine PPE for cremation and burial staff (for example gloves and respirators in the crematorium environment) is only needed when staff or relatives are in contact with the body of the deceased





When do you need PPE?

Handling bodies (ie touching) of possible or confirmed COVID-19 cases

This includes staff, for example during procedures including admission of deceased, bookingin of deceased, preparation for viewing, release of deceased

This also includes family members who may be in direct contact with the body, and require PPE under supervision of staff trained in appropriate use of PPE

What PPE should you use?

- Water repellent apron
- Disposable gloves
- Fluid repellent surgical mask*
- Eye protection (use if there is a risk of splashing/spitting)

*Use one mask for each specific setting BUT change the mask for a new one every 8 hours, or sooner if it becomes moist or damaged during use. The mask should be replaced if removed for any reason. This includes after breaks for eating or drinking.

Safe use and disposal of PPE

- Follow the guidance on how to safely put on/ take off PPE
- Only use aprons and gloves once for each body
- Use one mask (and eye protection, if required) for each session
- Decontaminate eye protection after use – if cleaned properly, it can be safely reused in a different setting
- Double bag aprons, gloves and mask upon disposal
- PPE should be disposed of in clinical waste



Guidance based on PHE advice 22 April 2020 and subject to change. Always check for updates on the gov.uk website.

If you have concerns about your visit or PPE please speak to your manager.