

## Benefits of Cap Guard and Kids Cap Guard in the Education Setting

*Cap Guard is a School Solutions partner with AASA, The School Superintendents Association, providing COVID-19 protective resources for students and teachers.*



### ***Cap Guard goes to School***

Educators and administrators across the country are struggling with the changes associated with returning to school. Social distancing, hand washing, and acrylic barriers are not the only agenda. Many teachers have expressed concerns children will not be able to wear face masks for a full day nor will face masks permit students and teachers to see each other's faces. Cap Guard and Kid's Cap Guard offers a solution that provides the best of both worlds, a 100% recyclable and easily sanitized face shield that clips to any baseball cap or visor. The Cap Guard shield provides a barrier that protects both parties engaged in communication while permitting full visibility of face expressions and lip movement. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia recently conducted a [policy review](#) to support local jurisdictions and school administrators in their planning. Face shields were recommended as an option for reopening Pennsylvania Schools, *"Face shields do provide a partial barrier to respiratory droplets and may be considered in classroom environments or situations where masking may interfere with teacher instruction OR when distancing (less than 6 feet) cannot be adequately achieved."* The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) has also included societal use of face shields as an option in its [Policy and Public Health Recommendations for Easing COVID-19 Distancing Restrictions](#).

### ***Cap Guard facilitates two-way communication***

Many educators utilize methods such as [Total Physical Response \(TPR\)](#) in the classroom. Total Physical Response is effective for teaching vocabulary and phrases to younger students and requires a combination of physical gestures, facial expressions, and lip movements that coincide with the verbiage imparted between teacher and student. The teacher must be able to assess the student's facial expression to confirm recognition and understanding. Lynn Cruse, an educator with ten years of teaching experience, works in the Barnegat, NJ School system. She utilizes Total Physical Response teaching on a daily basis. *"For the student population I teach, much is gained from being able to see each other's faces and mannerisms. It's essential to impart language teaching,"* says Cruse. *"A face shield is the way to go for my classroom. It permits me to be a more effective teacher, and I also feel the children will be more comfortable in a shield and touch their faces less."*

### ***Cap Guard promotes better teacher-student connection***

Many students need the reinforcement of seeing a teacher's facial expressions for cognitive interpretation and recognition. A recent article in the Journal of the American Medical

Association (JAMA) entitled [Moving Personal Protective Equipment Into the Community](#) supported the need for face shields for clearer understanding of spoken communication. *“The use of a face shield is also a reminder to maintain social distancing, but allows visibility of facial expressions and lip movements for speech perception.”* Students with diverse needs may require face shield alternatives. Jasmine Rodriguez is a teacher with a Masters of Science in Special Education with a Bilingual Extension and works as a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant. She has 22 years of teaching experience in the field, 7 of which were spent in schools in New York City. Her job requires weekly meetings with parents, teachers, and staff members as well as conducting one on one evaluations with her students. *“Wearing a face shield allows students to see my mouth movements and me to see theirs which is essential when conducting assessments. I also feel strongly that a face shield assists teachers, students, parents and study team members to feel more connected with one another,”* voiced Rodriguez. *“Repetition of clear and concise information with effective word pronunciation and recognition is crucial for the development of any student. A face shield for both teacher and student best suits this purpose in my classroom.”*

### ***Cap Guard face shield protects***

The State of New York considers a face shield to an acceptable form of face covering. [William Schaffner, M.D.](#), an infectious disease specialist and Professor at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine states, *“A face shield provides a barrier for anything going out, but also for things going in.”* [Eli N. Perencevich, M.D., M.S.](#), Professor of Internal Medicine and Epidemiology at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine recently wrote on the efficacy of face shields, *“They are comfortable to wear, protect the portals of viral entry, and reduce the potential for autoinoculation by preventing the wearer from touching their face.”* In a recent [interview](#), Perencevich went on to say *“... face shields are both source control and protecting yourself from the droplets landing anywhere on your face.”*

### ***Conclusion***

Cap Guard and Kids Cap Guard are being considered and purchased by a number of school systems at present. It is new to the market at a time when school systems are implementing policies and procedures for the best way to educate students while facing the challenges of COVID-19. Cap Guard is an innovative patent pending product manufactured in the United States that can be washed daily with antibacterial soap and mounts with live hinge clips to caps or visors that can convey school imagery.

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For further information visit [www.capguard.us](http://www.capguard.us)