

FACE COVERINGS FOR YOUNG LEARNERS

Here is what you need to know about how we will be supporting your child wearing a face covering.

CHILDREN SHOULD ARRIVE EACH DAY WEARING A CLEAN FACE COVERING

EACH DAY we need you to provide:

- Four (4) clean additional face coverings **LABELED** in permanent marker with the child's FIRST and LAST NAMES stored in a clean, **LABELED** storage container/bag;
- A second **LABELED** storage container/bag for soiled face coverings to be sent home in; and
- A third **LABELED** storage container/bag for storing the daily face covering when not in use (e.g., nap)

A properly fitted face covering should:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- Completely cover the nose and mouth and secure under the chin
- Secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing easily and without restriction
- Be able to be washed and machine-dried without damage or change to shape

Please do not send:

- Face coverings with valves
- "Gaitors"
- Face shields
- Face coverings with strings or attached to lanyards
- Face coverings with any attachments (buttons, sticker, etc.)

Children will be supported:

- wearing the face covering while at the center
- learning not to touch their face coverings
- removing soiled or damaged face coverings
- with good hand hygiene

Face coverings will not be worn:

- By children who have difficulty breathing
- By children who cannot remove the face covering without assistance
- While eating, drinking
- While napping/resting
- If a child continues to remove the mask or otherwise can't wear it safely
(*The mask will be removed and placed in the child's cubby for the rest of the day*)

TIPS FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN WEARING FACE COVERINGS:

Help build your child's comfort wearing a cloth face covering and become comfortable seeing others in face covers.

- Be positive
- Praise your child for wearing a cloth face covering correctly.
- Put a cloth face covering on stuffed animals.
- Draw a cloth face covering on a favorite book character.
- Show images of other children wearing cloth face coverings.
- Decorate them so they're more personalized and fun.
- Look in the mirror with the face coverings on and talk about it.
- As a family, model wearing face coverings.
- Practice with your child putting them on and off without touching the cloth.
- Practice wearing the face covering at home to help your child get used to it.
- Explain how it protects other people from getting sick.
- Consider talking to your child about other people who may not be able to wear cloth face coverings for medical reasons (e.g., asthma).
- **Make sure your child understands they should not swap face coverings.**

RESOURCES FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH WEARING FACE COVERINGS:

Information from Centers for Disease Control:

Considerations for Wearing Masks:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html#feasibility-adaptations>

Checklist for In-Person Learning:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/parent-checklist.html>

How to Wash:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wash-cloth-face-coverings.html>

Information from American Academy of Pediatrics

Cloth Face Coverings

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/cloth-face-coverings/>

Information from Healthychildren.org:

Cloth Face Coverings for Children during COVID-19

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/COVID-19/Pages/Cloth-Face-Coverings-for-Children-During-COVID-19.aspx>

Mask Mythbusters: 5 Common Misconceptions about Kids and Face Coverings:

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/COVID-19/Pages/Mask-Mythbusters.aspx>