



Faith Academy Charter School Covid-19 Mask Policy

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to describe how, when, and where the staff, students, and visitors of the School will be required to wear a mask over their nose and mouth to reduce the spread of Covid-19 based on the most recent data-driven metrics.

When teachers, staff, and students consistently and correctly wear a mask, they protect others as well as themselves. They also reduce the amount of close contacts who must quarantine and length of quarantine. Consistent and correct mask use is especially important indoors and in crowded settings when physical distancing cannot be maintained. Masks should be worn over the nose and mouth and secured around the ears.

The following policy reflects the latest CDC recommendations on masks:

- ❖ Indoors: Proper mask use (covering nose and mouth) is required for all people including students, teachers, staff, and visitors. Children under 2 years of age should not wear a mask.
 - Gaiters are not accepted in place of masks.
 - Teachers and staff are encouraged to seek positive, innovative and constructive methods of correcting and managing all student behavior in an effort to avoid repeated misbehavior regarding students not wearing masks.
 - Following 504 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), accommodations might be made for staff or students with a documented medical condition or disability that prevents them from wearing a traditional face mask.
 - Mask breaks will be provided to staff and students. In addition, temporary removal of the mask is permitted when necessary for the following reasons:
 - consuming food or drink
 - for any emergency or medical situation
- ❖ Outdoors: Masks are optional, but strongly encouraged during recess and other outdoor activities that do not involve sustained close contact with others.
- ❖ School Transportation: All passengers and drivers are required to wear a mask on school buses.
- ❖ Athletic Programs: Masks may be removed by students actively engaging in approved athletic programs.

Board Approved: 8/16/21

Board Approved: 9/20/21

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