



When to wear a mask

8/20/20 UPDATE: MASKS ARE NOW REQUIRED FOR ALL FHSD STAFF AND STUDENTS

CLASSROOM

Masks must be worn in the classroom at all times unless otherwise directed by the teacher, including while seated at a desk, engaging in learning stations, and entering and leaving the classroom. Additional guidance will be provided to teachers about situations where mask exceptions may be allowed.

HALLWAYS / STAIRS

Masks must be worn in the hallways, stairwells, and elevators when other individuals are present. This includes passing periods.

LUNCH ROOM

Masks must be worn when transitioning to and from mealtimes if outside the classroom. Remove mask while eating and drinking, then promptly put it back on when finished. Students should eat lunch with their assigned cohort and in their assigned seat.

PE / GYM

Masks are required indoors, except during warm ups when physical distancing is possible. Masks may be removed outdoors at the direction of the teacher when physical distancing is possible. For higher-impact activities, students who need to remove their mask will step to the side to catch their breath.

RECESS

Students will have recess with their assigned cohort. Masks are required for indoor recess. Masks may be removed outdoors at the direction of the teacher when physical distancing is possible.

CHOIR / BAND

Masks are required for all activities in music and choir classes, including singing. Band students must wear masks unless otherwise directed by the teacher. Percussion players must always wear a mask; brass and woodwind players can remove mask while playing. Bell covers for instruments are recommended.

BUS

Masks must be worn at all times while on a school bus. Students will not be allowed to board the bus without a mask. Bus drivers will have a limited supply of disposable masks on hand for emergencies.

Masks are required for all FHSD staff and students, regardless of grade level. Mask adaptations and alternatives may be considered for students with specialized medical needs and certain IEPs at the discretion of the school nurse or student's case worker.



WHY MASKS?

Masks help slow the spread of coronavirus. In the Francis Howell School District, masks are required for all staff and students, regardless of grade level.

ACCEPTABLE MASKS

In accordance with CDC guidance, a well-secured cloth or mask that fits snugly against the face, covers an individual's nose and mouth, and is secured under the chin will be accepted.



ACCEPTABLE:

- (BEST) Cloth masks that fully cover nose, mouth, and chin
- (GOOD) Disposable cloth mask
- (OKAY) Neck Gaiters (as long as they cover the nose and mouth and are secured under the chin)
- (OKAY) Bandanas (offers the least protection because they do not fully secure under the chin)



NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- Face shields (unless combined with a cloth mask)
- Masks with exhalation valve or vent
- Masks made solely of materials like mesh or lace
- Knitted masks
- Masks with profanity or imagery that violates the student dress code



PLEASE NOTE: FHSD's guidelines on acceptable masks may change as the CDC and other medical organizations release new guidance.

HELPFUL MASK TIPS

- Label your student's mask with their name.
- Provide a lanyard for use during meal times or other times when the mask is off.
- Launder masks regularly.
- Let your student choose a mask color or design they like.
- Model good mask-wearing to help your student embrace the habit.

