



Mouse Mountain Elementary School

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Oct 1, 2021

Re: Update on Masks for K-3 Students

Dear parents and guardians,

As announced this morning by Education Minister, Jennifer Whiteside, and our Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, the K – 12 health and safety guidelines have been updated to **require masks for Kindergarten to grade 3 students** in addition to the existing guidelines requiring masks for our grade 4 to 12 students. The expanded mask mandate begins Monday, Oct. 4th. Students will wear a mask on the bus as well as when indoors, except when eating. Students do not need to wear a mask when outdoors.

Although we will have masks available for our K – 3 students if needed, we encourage our families to send their children to school with a preferred mask and to have a conversation with their child about the importance of wearing a mask. Families can practice putting on a mask properly (instructions from the BCCDC are attached).

I would encourage you to send a ziplock bag with your child to keep the mask clean when not in use (such as during snack or lunch time). We will provide your child with a clean disposable children's mask if their mask is dirty or misplaced.

Please know that all staff in the school are here to support your child and help them in a positive, caring way to follow these new guidelines.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the office, email me (mboniface@sd91.bc.ca) or call/text anytime at 604-575-0466. I thank you in advance for your help as we navigate this new change and I welcome any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Megan Boniface



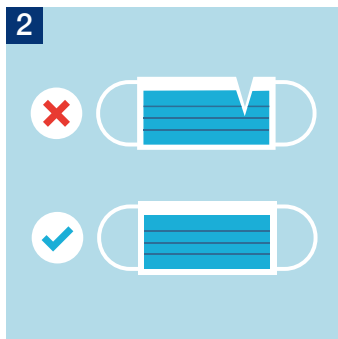
Coronavirus COVID-19

BC Centre for Disease Control | BC Ministry of Health

How to Wear a Face Mask



1 Wash your hands with soap and water for 20-30 seconds or perform hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand rub before touching the face mask.



2 Check the new mask to make sure it's not damaged.



3 Ensure colour side of the mask faces outwards.



4 Locate the metallic strip. Place it over and mold it to the nose bridge.



5 Place an ear loop around each ear or tie the top and bottom straps.



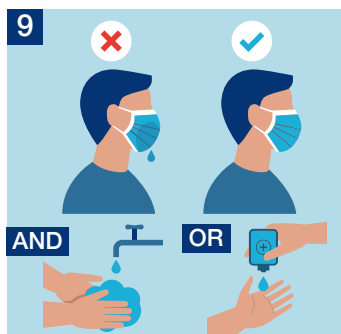
6 Cover mouth and nose fully, making sure there are no gaps. Pull the bottom of the mask to fully open and fit under your chin.



7 Press the metallic strip again to fit the shape of the nose. Perform hand hygiene.



8 Do not touch the mask while using it, if you do, perform hand hygiene.



9 Replace the mask if it gets wet or dirty and wash your hands again after putting it on. Do not reuse the mask.

Removing the Mask



1 Perform hand hygiene.



2 Do not touch the front of your mask. Lean forward, gently remove the mask from behind by holding both ear loops or ties.



3 Discard the mask in a waste container.



4 Perform hand hygiene.

