

## **Anderson School Face Mask Guidelines**

Face coverings are required in all indoor spaces and all outdoor spaces on school grounds. The face covering requirement applies to all Anderson School students, staff, parents, and anyone else who is accessing the building or school grounds for whatever reason. Exemptions will be made for students or staff who are unable to wear a face covering due to a medical issue. If students are able to be outside in a classroom setting six feet apart, face masks can be removed.

Face covering requirements will supplement safety measures such as social distancing, frequent hand washing, and frequent cleaning already in place.

### **What Counts as a Face Covering?**

Appropriate face coverings are those that cover the mouth and nose of the wearer. Following Centers for Disease Control guidance, effective face coverings include simple cloth masks and disposable masks. All masks should be clean and/or laundered daily. Bandanas and buffs are less effective and their use is prohibited.

Following CDC guidance, face coverings should:

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face;
- be secured with ties or ear loops;
- include multiple layers of fabric;
- allow for breathing without restriction; and
- be able to be laundered and machine-dried without damaging them or changing their shape.
- Cannot have an “exhale valve,” as those allow droplets to escape the mask

Plastic face shields may be used in instances where an individual can consistently and reliably maintain appropriate social distancing or where a cloth mask is otherwise impracticable. Such instances may include, but not be limited to, ADA and other medical accommodations (i.e. autism, developmental age etc). If an individual chooses to use a plastic face shield the shield should cover from above the eyes to below the chin and wrap around the side of the wearer’s face to reduce the risk of the spread of respiratory particles. Face shields and masks can be worn together if preferred by the wearer. However, it is important to note that disposable or cloth face masks are preferred.