

## Face Mask Waiver Form

Cornerstone Early Learning Center follows IDPH guidelines for face coverings. Face coverings are at the discretions of the parent or guardian therefore we ask that you indicate your preference on the waiver form below.

### IDPH Guidelines for Day Care Centers:

Face Coverings (masks, face shield, cloth covering, etc.)

1. Staff. To slow the spread of COVID-19, program staff should wear a face covering while serving children and interacting with parents and families.
  - a. Program staff should wear a face covering whenever 6 feet of physical distancing is not possible.
  - b. Programs are encouraged to consider the use of transparent face coverings to allow for the reading of facial expressions, which is important for child development.
2. Children. When possible, and at the discretion of the parent or guardian of the child, programs should encourage wearing face coverings for children age 2 and older who can safely and appropriately wear, remove, and tolerate masks.
  - a. When children can be safely kept at least 6 feet away from others, then they do not need to be encouraged to wear a face covering.
  - b. Face coverings are not to be worn while children are eating/drinking, sleeping, and napping. Strict and consistent physical distancing must always be practiced during these activities.
  - c. Face coverings need not be worn while engaging in active outdoor play as long as children are able to keep physical distance from others.
  - d. Children 2 years of age and older should be supervised when wearing a mask. If wearing the face covering causes the child to touch their face more frequently, staff should reconsider whether the face covering is appropriate for the child.
3. Parents/Guardians/Those Authorized for Pick-Up/Drop off should wear a face covering at all times during drop/off and pick/up and at any time when entering the facility.
4. Exceptions to Use of Face Coverings should include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Children under 2 years old;
  - b. Children who cannot safely and appropriately wear, remove, and tolerate face coverings;
  - c. Children who have difficulty breathing with the face covering or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance;
  - d. Children with severe cognitive or respiratory impairments that have a hard time tolerating a face covering;
  - e. Children for whom the only option for a face covering presents a potential choking or strangulation hazard;
  - f. Children who, due to a behavioral health diagnosis or an intellectual impairment, are unable to wear a face covering safely;
  - g. Individuals who need to communicate with people who rely upon lip-reading.
  - h. Individuals who have medical conditions or disabilities that prevent use of a face covering.

Please encourage my child to wear a face mask at ALL times

I do NOT wish my child to wear a face mask at all times for the following reasons:

\_\_\_ My child cannot safely and appropriately wear, remove, and tolerate masks.

\_\_\_ A face covering causes my child to touch their face more frequently.

\_\_\_ My child has difficulty breathing with the face covering.

\_\_\_ My child has severe cognitive or respiratory impairment

\_\_\_ A face covering presents a potential choking or strangulation hazard for my child

\_\_\_ My child has a medical conditions or disabilities that prevents the use of a face covering.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_