

Memo

DATE: August 17, 2020
SUBJECT: Face Coverings
TO: Parents / Guardians
FROM: Timothy Wendling, CEO/Principal

What is CASA's protocol for face coverings?

On July 1, 2020, the Secretary of Health issued an order requiring universal face coverings. As stated in the Department of Health Executive Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings – Application for Schools document, this order applies to students and staff members in schools. The American Academy of Pediatrics now strongly recommends that all children over the age of two wear face coverings **at all times**. On August 17, 2020, The Pennsylvania Department of Health updated its guidance for schools and is now requiring that all students and staff wear face coverings **at all times throughout the school day, even when six feet of social distancing can be achieved.** **In addition to the CASA facility, face coverings must be worn at all times in Strawberry Square.** Face coverings may only be removed when eating or drinking when spaced at least six feet apart. Any student who cannot wear a face covering or face shield due to a medical condition, including those with respiratory issues that impede breathing, a mental health condition, or disability, and students who would be unable to remove a face covering without assistance are not required to wear face coverings, and will need that accommodation documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team. Individuals who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or who has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication, are not required to wear a face covering; however, individuals will be encouraged to use another type of face covering such as a plastic face shield.

All students and staff members will be provided with one reusable/washable CASA gaiter-style face covering, along with a reusable face mask. Additionally, students may wear face coverings with school-appropriate patterns, but face coverings with words/phrases are not permitted.

Thank you for your continued support of CASA Charter School. Although these are difficult and trying times, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your children. If you have any questions, please call 717-732-8450.