

## **Park Forest Preschool**

### **Face Coverings or Masks Policy and Procedure**

#### **Adopted 8-2021**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and safety of our students, parents, staff, and volunteers is our top priority. Park Forest Preschool will follow the CDC, American Academy of Pediatrics and PA Department of Education guidelines for best practices to decrease the spread of the virus.

A mask is a surgical or handmade cloth face covering (can be a scarf or bandanna).

\*\*Cloth masks are available from Park Forest Preschool for adults and children.

#### **Masks must cover the nose and mouth.**

Who will wear a mask:

- All adults (including parents, staff and volunteers) will put a mask on before entering the building.
- Children two years and older will wear a mask while awaiting daily health screening and when in hallways, bathrooms or common spaces.
- Children should be guided to not touch or remove their mask when in the common spaces.
- For a child with a diagnosis of asthma, a discussion with a health care provider needs to occur regarding school attendance and specific guidelines for wearing a mask.

When masks will be worn:

- Masks will be put on (all persons listed above) when in line, awaiting health screening and when in any common spaces of Park Forest Preschool.
- In the classrooms: Children will be taught about the benefits of wearing a mask and lovingly encouraged to wear their mask when close to peers.
- Children will not be required to wear masks when outdoors & engaged in movement activities.
- Teachers will wear masks when providing instruction when indoors or outdoors and are in close proximity to students.
- The only time Teachers may remove their masks for brief periods of time is when they are outdoors and they are able to social distance six feet or more from students during playground supervision, or if a child's safety requires the teacher to communicate more clearly.
- If a student becomes ill during the day, the child will wear a mask and be removed from the classroom to a sick room.

Removing masks:

- Adults can assist children in removing masks.
- Assist the child by removing the elastic from around their ears.
- Avoid touching child's nose, eyes, or mouth.
- After removing the mask, the adult or child should wash their hands (for 20 seconds) or sanitize hands (for 10 seconds).
- Masks can be stored in a personalized plastic box, labeled with the child's name.

Cleaning masks:

- Cloth masks should be washed after one day of use.