



Face Covering/Mask Policy 2020-2021

In order to protect all SIS staff and students from the spread of COVID-19 and in accordance with Executive Order 2020-51, we enact the following SIS Face Covering/Mask Policy:

Significant evidence exists that shows that face masks provide protection from and decreases the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, all SIS staff, students, parents, vendors, volunteers, or any other visitors must follow this policy until the Arizona Department of Health Services determines that face coverings are no longer necessary or recommended to contain the spread of the virus.

General Face Covering/Mask Policy

- Face coverings shall be worn at all times by all individuals over the age of 2 years old when on school property, when utilizing school provided transportation, when at school bus stops, and when at school functions, unless an exception applies as set forth within this policy.
- Face coverings should not be worn by children under the age of 2 years old, anyone with difficulty breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
- Face coverings must be comprised of at least two layers, covering the nose and mouth fully, fit snugly against the sides of the face without gaps, and allow for breathing without restriction.
- SIS will follow its regular procedures to accommodate or otherwise address the special needs of individuals with disabilities as those needs relate to the face covering requirements set forth in this policy.
- Face shields may be a permitted alternative to face coverings, as approved by an authorized district employee.

SIS Students

- The SIS Face Covering/Mask Policy applies to all SIS students in kindergarten through 8th Grade
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for supplying face coverings for their child/ren SIS will strive to keep extra face masks available for individuals who report to campus without a face mask and may provide free face masks to families that cannot afford to provide one for their child/ren due to a financial hardship.
- Students must wear face coverings/masks unless one of the following exceptions is applicable:
 - The student is eating or drinking.



- The student can maintain adequate social distancing as recommended by the CDC (6 ft. social distance apart from one another).
- The student has difficulty breathing.
- The student is outside on the playground with social distancing (6 ft.).
- The student has been specifically permitted to remove their face covering/mask on a case-by-case basis for specific instructional, medical, or other reasons as determined by an authorized school staff member.
- Students may be allowed face covering/mask breaks to remove their face covering/mask throughout the day when physical distancing of at least 6 feet can be maintained.
- Students who do not abide by the provisions of this face covering/mask policy may be subject to discipline measures consistent with district policies and/or exclusion from in-person/onsite learning

Employees

- This policy is applicable to all SIS employees.
- SIS may provide face coverings/masks to an employee upon request and will provide PPE for all individuals who are in situations defined as “high risk” by the Center for Disease Control, ie; School nurse.
- Employees shall wear face coverings/masks unless one of the following exceptions apply:
 - The employee has difficulty breathing.
 - The employee must remove the face covering/mask to effectively perform their job.
 - The employee is eating or drinking.
 - The employee can maintain adequate physical distancing as defined by the CDC.
- Employees who do not abide by or refuse to abide by the provisions of this policy may be subject to disciplinary actions consistent with district policy.

Members of the Public

- This policy applies to all members of the public (parents, volunteers, vendors, visitors, etc.)
- Members of the public shall wear face coverings/masks unless one of the following exceptions apply:
 - The individual has difficulty breathing.
 - The individual must remove the face covering/mask to effectively perform their job or fulfill the purpose for which they reported on campus or to a school function.
 - The individual is eating or drinking.
 - The individual can maintain adequate physical distancing as defined by the CDC.
- Members of the public who do not abide by or refuse to abide by this policy may be directed to vacate the premises. SIS may also take any other action deemed appropriate.