

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON USE OF FACE COVERINGS

1. Will face coverings be required in LCS?

Yes, at this time, face coverings will be required while on all LCS property. This is a fluid process and LCS will continue to monitor COVID-19 within our community for changes as necessary. [Refer to Policy JHCCAZ/GBEY](#)

2. Why are face coverings required?

Face coverings are being required based upon best available data and input from the Virginia Department of (VDH), Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), local health authorities, CDC guidelines, and stakeholder groups, including teachers and parents. According to the VDH, face coverings have been shown to be an effective tool in stopping the spread of COVID-19, along with physical distancing, frequent handwashing, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. Nothing regarding this requirement is intended to violate the ADA or HIPAA protections for our students and/or staff.

3. Who will be required to wear face coverings?

All students are required to wear a face covering or mask when riding in school-provided transportation. All students, staff, visitors, and vendors will be required to wear face masks or covering while in LCS school buildings or facilities and/or another campus for a LCS sponsored event(s). Any medical exemptions will be addressed on a case by case basis.

Visitors and Vendors

Under the current policy, visitors and vendors will be required to wear a face mask or covering.

4. Will students, staff, and visitors need to bring their own face-coverings or will they be provided by the LCS?

Yes, students, staff, and visitors need to bring their own face-coverings. Parents/guardians may provide their child with their own masks/face coverings; however, if a mask/face covering is needed, the school will provide a mask/face covering as appropriate. Please note that we have a limited supply of face coverings for staff and visitors. Parents/Guardians should regularly clean and sanitize all reusable cloth face coverings. Students should be frequently reminded not to touch the mask/face covering and to wash their hands frequently.

5. Will staff have to wear face coverings all day?

Until further notice from the Superintendent/ Designee all staff of LCS will be required to wear a mask or face covering while working or attending a school function in any school

building, facility, or other area of a school campus and on school provided-transportation. Staff who need a break from wearing their face coverings and/or masks while on school property, may do so if alone in their own office or classroom or outdoors maintaining social distancing. A staff member may not utilize common areas, for example a conference room, restrooms, break room, hallway, stairwell or any unoccupied location for a face covering and/or mask break.

All masks and face coverings must cover the nose and mouth of the staff member. Bandanas, neck gaiters, scarves, and face shields without an underlying mask or acceptable face covering described in Policy JHCCAZ/GBEY are not permitted.

6. Will students have to wear face coverings all day?

Students who need a short break from their face coverings and/ or masks, may do so with teacher permission provided social distancing of 6 feet and all desks and students are facing forward. Masks breaks should take place outside whenever possible. If held indoors, windows should be opened, when possible, for the duration of the break.

7. Will there be exemptions?

Yes. The following approved exemptions apply: persons eating or drinking; persons for whom a face covering would cause an impairment due to a medical documented existing health condition or disability. However, face coverings are required for participants not actively engaged in a game or practice, such as when standing on the sidelines, in a dugout, and off the field of play any time six (6') feet or other physical distancing measure as approved by LCS is not possible (Coaches, Spectators, Athletic Trainers, Visitors, etc.).

8. What happens if students or staff forgets, loses, or damages their face covering?

If students or staff forget, lose, or damage their face covering, LCS will provide a face covering for use that day.

9. What happens when students or staff refuse to wear a face covering or continually fails or forgets to bring a face covering to school?

Just as any other instance in which a student refuses to follow school rules, teachers and other staff will work with the student to ensure understanding of the importance of using face coverings for health and safety and how compliance with this important new rule is not negotiable. If a student continues to refuse to wear a face mask, families will be notified and the student will be enrolled in the remote learning option.

Staff who refuse to wear a mask or face covering at school, at a school function, or continually do not wear or refuse to wear a face covering shall be subject to discipline under School Board Policy GBEZ and GCPD, and applicable state law regarding the violation of School Board policies.

10. Are there any rules regarding the face coverings that staff may wear?

Yes. Face coverings must comply with the Standards of Conduct for Employees that is found in the [School Board Policy JHCCAZ/GBEY](#).

Any face coverings that disrupts positive interactions of staff with their colleagues, students, parents, and the community because they contain language or images that: (1) are profane language, gestures, pictures, objects and/ or images; (2) promote illegal or violent conduct, such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, nicotine vapor products, or drug paraphernalia; (3) threaten, intimidate, or harass, including Confederate images and other symbols of hatred, such as the swastika and gang symbols; or (4) endanger the health or safety of themselves or others are prohibited.

11. Are there any rules regarding the face covering that students may wear.

Yes, Face coverings must comply with the Standards of Conduct that is found in the School Board Policy JFCY.

Students are expected to dress appropriately for a K-12 educational environment. Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is unacceptable. Clothing with language or images that are vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene, or clothing that promotes illegal or violent conduct, such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or drug paraphernalia or clothing that contains threats such as gang symbols is prohibited.

12. What happens when a visitor or vendor refuses to wear a face covering?

Face coverings will be required to be worn by visitors and vendors unless an approved exemption applies.

13. Will face coverings be required everywhere on a school campus?

Face coverings will be required everywhere on a school campus and at class trips or function venues and athletic sites when physical distancing measures approved by the LCS cannot be met unless an exemption applies.

14. What types of face coverings are allowable?

- Paper or disposable mask
- Cloth face mask
- Religious face covering

The covering should cover the nose and mouth completely, should not be overly tight or restrictive, and should feel comfortable to wear. A face covering is not meant to substitute for social distancing.

15. Will face coverings be required for students that come in for individualized assessments (special education or instructional)?

Yes. Students will be informed prior to entering the building that they will be screened and have to wear a face covering while on LCS property. Students who arrive on site will be given a face covering. The face covering will be made available by the serving school.