



COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets. Evidence shows that wearing a face covering reduces the risk of spreading the virus to others.

### **COVID -19 Face Mask Policy**

In accordance with state order 20-03.4, issued by the Washington State Secretary of Health, which currently mandates the use of face coverings, all students are required to wear a face mask when indoors. Schools may choose to require face masks outdoors if appropriate physical distancing cannot be maintained during school activities.

### **Waiver Request Process** ([Form Attached](#))

Parents/guardians who wish to request a medical mask waiver for their child must obtain documentation from their healthcare practitioner. The health care practitioner must:

- Complete the medical waiver form, outlining the physical or intellectual condition that prohibits the child from safely wearing a face covering
- Identify an alternative recommendation (i.e., a face shield with a drape or other droplet retention method), or
- Request a full exclusion from all face coverings

*Note: In these rare situations, other risk mitigation measures must be taken to protect the health of both the exempted individual and others in the school environment. Other mitigation measures will include the following accommodations: required weekly COVID-19 testing, physical distancing of 6 feet or more at all times, and completion of the form 'Waiver of Liability Relating to COVID-19.' The school may choose to enforce additional measures as needed.*

If the school is unable to provide the above accommodations, then the administrator will work with the family to explore other options which may include remote learning, if available, or alternative placement. All expenses associated with these additional requirements will be incurred by the family. All waiver requests will be reviewed and either approved or denied by an Archdiocesan Health Officer. Waiver approvals and denials will be reported to the school administrator who will then inform the family.