

Prairie South Schools Mask Protocol Updated 18 November 2020

Preamble

This update to the Prairie South mask protocol is based on information received from the Government of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Health Authority, local Public Health staff and a review of safety process compliance.

Continuing with students in cohorts, hand hygiene, cleaning and limited physical contact are critical elements of school safety in 2020-2021 regardless of mask protocol. Mask protocol represents a minimum expectation – visitors, staff and students may mask in other circumstances.

Protocol

Group	Mask Protocol
PreK and K Students	Masks are only required when students are working in a one-on-one setting with any staff member. If individual students do not have masks, these will be provided by the school.
Grades 1-3 Students	Masks are only required when students are working in one-on-one or small group settings with any staff member. If individual students do not have masks, these will be provided by the school.
Grades 4-12 Students	Masks are required in all classrooms, during indoor transitions (hallways, bathroom visits, etc.) and on the school bus. Teachers may choose to offer “mask breaks” when all present in the classroom are working independently at their desks.
All School Staff	Masks are required in all classrooms when students or other staff are present and during indoor transitions (hallways, bathroom visits, etc.).
Visitors to the School	Masks are required at all times.
Outdoors	Masks are not required outdoors.
Gymnasiums	Physical education teachers are planning for activities where physical contact can be minimized. During these activities, masks are not required in gymnasiums.

Exemptions

1. In circumstances where students of any age require additional support, PPE (including masks) may be used at the discretion of the student support team planning for that student.
2. Students or staff with a medical condition that makes mask use inappropriate or unsafe may be exempt from this protocol with written permission from their doctor.
3. In the case of Practical and Applied Arts curricular spaces masks are required unless the use of a mask creates a safety hazard.