

## Sample Policy for Mask Wearing in Family Childcare Homes

*Below is a **SAMPLE** policy. This sample contains all of the required components but also includes components not specifically required. This sample policy is intended to serve as a guide as programs develop a policy that meets the needs of their program and the children and families they serve.*

### **Children's Mask Requirements:**

- Children age three and older are required to wear face masks during the day. Children whose parent(s) refuse to have their child wear a mask will not be permitted to enroll in the program.
- Children who are newly enrolled or have just turned three within the past two months may work toward mask wearing.
- Children must arrive at the family childcare home with their mask in place covering their nose and mouth.
- Children's masks can either be cloth or disposable and must fit comfortably and securely over both the child's nose and mouth. Masks will not be put around the neck or up on the forehead.
- Cloth masks will be sent home for daily laundering and disposable masks must be replaced each day.
- Parents are to supply a clean mask every day and a spare mask.
- Parents should provide a labeled Ziploc bag or alternate storage item for individualized mask storage during eating, rest, outdoor play, and mask breaks.
- Children will be permitted to remove their masks while eating, during rest time and during outdoor play.
- Children who remove their masks at other times will be gently reminded and supported to replace their mask over their nose and mouth. Children will not be disciplined, excluded, or isolated due to a child's non-compliance with mask wearing.
- Children will be encouraged to not touch their eyes, nose and mouth when removing their mask and encouraged not to touch other children's masks.
- Children receiving speech or other related special education services for which the mask would be an interference will be permitted to remove their mask, along with the participating adult, during those activities.
- Children with documented medical conditions, special health care needs, developmental needs, disabilities or special education needs for whom wearing a mask would be contrary to their health, safety or needs will not be required to wear masks.
- Children will be provided intermittent mask breaks when social distancing of 6 feet can be achieved.
- In the event your child's mask is forgotten or damaged, a child size face mask (cloth or disposable) will be provided.

### **Adult's Mask Requirements:**

- Providers, assistants and substitutes are required to wear a mask or face covering while in the program unless doing so would be contrary to their health or safety due to a medical condition documented by a licensed medical practitioner. Household members who are present during business hours and cannot social distance must also wear a face mask.

*A copy of this policy will be maintained on site at the program and shared with parents.*