

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Children and Face Coverings (Masks)

Mask wearing for children must strike a balance between the benefits and risk of health and social measures. Children under 10-years-old are less likely to wear masks correctly and are more likely to fiddle with the masks which increases the touching of their faces. Children may also suffer from complications with asthma, allergies and other respiratory illness and injury from the mask ties. All of which would decrease the usefulness of the mask.

Therefore the following tips for children are recommended by the Ministry of Health:



Don't:

Put a mask on a child who is under two-years-old or would struggle with taking it off by themselves



Don't:

Have a child under the age of 10-years-old wear a mask all day at a school, camp or day care



Do:

Put a mask on a child two-years-old and older for public transport



Do:

Put a mask on a child two-years-old and older for public places such as stores if physical distancing cannot be maintained and only for a short time – if they will tolerate it. If not, they should remain home.



Do:

Use masks for children older than 10-years-old in a school or camp setting



MAYBE:

Offer a mask to a child who is sick and showing respiratory symptoms (cough, etc) at school and is waiting to be collected. BUT only if the child is OK with it, DO NOT FORCE the child to put the mask on them as it may make them worse.

Remember:

When removing or touching a mask use thorough hand washing or hand sanitizing; physical distancing should be practiced where possible.

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19 by visiting the Government of Bermuda's website coronavirus.gov.bm

