# School with a mask

## Keys to a good mask fit '

Fit

- •Firm over the nose and sides of the face
- Adjust to avoid glasses fogging

Comfort

- •Common pressure points are behind the ears and nose
- Should not see marks or skin break down

Breathing

- Masks should be 3-4 fine textured cotton layers
- Masks should not be too thick or hot

Safety

- Masks are safe. They do not affect your ability to breathe.
- •Be sure that straps are not a strangulation hazard

## Putting on and taking off your mask

Wash hands

Put on mask holding ear loops only

Mold nose piece for a comfortable seal

Wash hands

Take off mask holding ear loops only

Store in a dry place & wash hands

## **Getting used to wearing a mask**

**Breathing** 

Over the mouth to get used to it

Over the mouth and nose when you are used to it

**Tolerance** 

Get used to it with short periods of time at first

Practice for longer

Activity

Start with a quiet, distracting activity Add indoor and outdoor exercise

### Mask care

#### Clean mask

- •Store in a dry paper bag or towel
- Keep the face side clean
- Check with the school mask plan

#### **Dirty mask**

- •Wash in soap and hot water
- •Wash masks daily or if they get damp
- •Were you exposed to aerosols? Change your mask.

NEVER share masks!

#### Face care

Moisturize

- •Daily moisturizer for your skin type
- •Lip balm to minimize dry, chapped lips
- •Use petroleum jelly on irritated spots before bed

**Products** 

- Avoid new products
- •Cut down on irritating skin products

Make up

- Avoid using it under the mask area
- •Make up under the mask can clog pores and promote acne

**Troubleshooting** 

- Always use clean masks & non-irritating laundry detergent
- •Ensure good mask fit & avoid synthetic fabric
- •Take a 15 minute break in a safe place every 4 hours
- •Switch between mask types daily to give your ears a break

#### Resources

**Choosing your mask** https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html

**Putting on your mask** https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-wear-non-medical-mask-face-covering-properly.html

Breathing easier in a mask <a href="https://www.folio.ca/how-to-breathe-easier-while-wearing-a-protective-mask/">https://www.folio.ca/how-to-breathe-easier-while-wearing-a-protective-mask/</a>

Caring for masks <a href="https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/q-a-on-covid-19-and-masks">https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/q-a-on-covid-19-and-masks</a>

Stressed skin? <a href="https://www.aad.org/public/everyday-care/skin-care-secrets/face/prevent-face-mask-skin-problems">https://www.aad.org/public/everyday-care/skin-care-secrets/face/prevent-face-mask-skin-problems</a> and <a href="https://www.aad.org/public/everyday-care/injured-skin/burns/face-mask-skin-problems-treatment">https://www.aad.org/public/everyday-care/injured-skin/burns/face-mask-skin-problems-treatment</a>

**Stressed out?** https://www.cps.ca/en/blog-blogue/how-to-help-youth-tackle-the-blues-during-covid-19

**Learn about COVID-19** https://www.ualberta.ca/alberta-respiratory-centre/covid19-links.html

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