



NewsBits

Mask Guidance

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) , Franklin County Public Health and Columbus Public Health have all updated their guidance regarding the requirement to wear masks. In light of these changes and recognizing that COVID cases have declined significantly, all facilities operated by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) will become 'mask friendly' or mask optional effective at the time that Columbus City Council officially lifts their requirement per recommendation of Columbus Public Health. We anticipate that Columbus City Council will act on this on Monday evening, March 7, 2022 so FCBDD would begin 'mask friendly' status on Tuesday, March 8.

When we say 'mask friendly', we mean that we want staff, students, parents and others visiting our facilities to feel comfortable making the decision on wearing a mask depending upon their individual circumstances. If individuals have compromising health conditions or other reasons to wear masks, we encourage this and would hope others are respectful of individual decisions. We will have masks available at our facilities and we will encourage all to continue all safety protocols, including washing hands frequently, getting vaccinated, not coming to our facilities if one has symptoms, testing if symptoms, maintaining sanitization practices and maintaining other standard universal precautions.

The CDC has not changed their guidelines on isolation and quarantine. Per guidance from the Columbus Public Health Department, masks will continue to be required for people who have recently tested positive for COVID-19 and their close contacts.

If case counts increase and we have updated guidance from our Health Officials, we will be responsive. Masks may again be required in the future. We thank everyone for your cooperation during this pandemic and are pleased that the case counts have declined significantly. Thank you.

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