

Student Mask Exception Attestation Form

At Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB), the following approach will be taken related to non-medical or cloth masks for students:

Students

- All students will be required to wear a non-medical or cloth mask while in a school (including hallways and classrooms), on a bus, or outside when they cannot physically distance. Outdoor times like recess can be used as opportunities to provide students with breaks from wearing masks within their cohorts, provided proper physical distancing between cohorts can be maintained.
- Masks must cover the nose, mouth and chin without gaping. This increases the benefits of mask wearing. Bandanas and gaiters are not considered to be masks.
- Staff are asked to problem-solve individual situations where a student may require a temporary break from wearing a mask by stepping into the hall (still visible to staff), one at a time, for a minute or two, where physical distancing of 2 metres can be maintained.

Students may wear their own non-medical masks provided the students' own mask can be worn in the appropriate manner. Non-medical masks will also be made available for students. Reasonable exceptions on the requirement to wear masks will apply. No medical note is required.

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

As the parent/guardian of _____ or an adult student, I am attesting to the fact that my child or myself (if an adult student) claims an exception to the requirement of wearing a non-medical or cloth mask while in a school (including hallways and classrooms), on a bus, or outside when they cannot physically distance. I understand that exceptions are possible for the reasons below (check at least one):

- underlying **medical, developmental, sensory or mental health reason** which inhibits my/my child's ability to wear a non-medical mask in the manner required by the Ministry of Education or Public Health authorities
- anyone who has trouble breathing or is unable to remove the mask without assistance, in the manner required by the Ministry of Education or Public Health authorities

Acknowledged and attested this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Student Name

Parent/Guardian/Caregiver/Student age 18+ Signature

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Office Use Only

- Entry into PowerSchool (date): _____

(Retain signed paper form in office for one year and then securely destroy.)