

Indoor Face Covering Decision Matrix

The Arts Academy Charter Middle School has developed an evidence based decision-making tool to assist when a change may be needed to our face covering policy. Our goal is to have AACMS remain open for five days a week of in-person instruction.

Indoor face covering requirements are a priority mitigation strategy across the tiers. The school may transition between tiers depending on the metrics set forth. Movement among tier levels will be considered after two consecutive weeks from the indicted change of the criteria. Immediate changes may be necessary as a result of outbreaks within the building.

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
	Guiding Metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0-49 cases/ 100,000 residents in Lehigh &/or Northampton County in a 7-day period &/or 0%-7.9% test positivity rate &/or AACMS student/staff cases less than 5 in a 10-day rolling window &/or No evidence of community spread in school &/or High community and student/staff vaccination rates (60% and higher) *based on the entire population 	Guiding Metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50-100 cases/ 100,000 residents in Lehigh &/or Northampton County in a 7-day period &/or 8-9.9% test positivity rate &/or AACMS student/staff cases less than 10 in a 10-day rolling window &/or No evidence of community spread in school &/or Moderate community and student/staff vaccination rates (40-59.9%) *based on the entire population 	Guiding Metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100+ cases/ 100,000 residents in Lehigh &/or Northampton County in a 7-day period &/or >10% test positivity rate &/or AACMS student/staff cases greater than 15 in a 10-day rolling window &/or Evidence of community spread in school &/or Low community and student/staff vaccination rates (0-39.9%) *based on the entire population
Students -5th through 8th	<i>Recommended Indoors</i>	<i>Recommended Indoors</i>	<i>Required Indoors</i>
Faculty/ Staff	<i>Recommended Indoors</i>	<i>Recommended Indoors when with students</i>	<i>Required Indoors</i>
Health Room/ Guidance Office	<i>Required Indoors</i>	<i>Required Indoors</i>	<i>Required Indoors</i>
Transportation	<i>Required per CDC/PDE order</i>		
Visitors	<i>Recommended Indoors</i>	<i>Required Indoors</i>	<i>Required Indoors</i>

AACMS will continue to work with our local Healthcare Providers to determine decision making factors as well as on-going review of recommendations from Center for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC states: In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised. AACMS holds the right to mandate universal masking at any time for all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, based on CDC guidance and the level of community and/or building transmission of COVID-19.