



Masks Are Important in Schools



Children Under 16 Can't Be Vaccinated

Vaccine is only authorized for those 16 and older. Meaning the majority of the kids in a school setting are unable to be vaccinated. Children can still contract COVID-19 and can potentially have serious impacts, such as MIS-C.



Guidance Supports Mask Use

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and the health department support mask use. Masks help reduce respiratory droplets from spreading from one person to another. This helps reduce transmission.

- *The CDC has issued an order stating that face masks must be worn by all passengers while using public transportation, including school buses.*



Precautions Still Need to Be Taken

Even though vaccination has begun, until we have reached high levels of community vaccination precautions still need to be taken.

Masks Help Reduce COVID-19 Transmission in Your School

Wood County School Mask Study

With masking requirements and student cohorting, transmission risk within schools appeared low, suggesting that schools might be able to safely open with appropriate mitigation efforts in place.

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7004e3.htm?s_cid=mm7004e3_w

Science Brief: Transmission in Schools

When prevention strategies, especially mask use and physical distancing are consistently and correctly used, the risk of transmission in the school environment is decreased.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission-k-12-schools.html?>

If you are deciding to go against recommendations you may want to check with your insurance company prior to making any decisions, along with any potential impacts to staffing levels.

