

ALNC Mask Policy - Updated August 4, 2022:

Note: see the latest public health recommendations / requirements for face coverings in Dane County [here](#).

Starting August 29th, face masks will become optional indoors for all program participants. This includes all students, staff, family members, volunteers, and contractors, regardless of vaccination status. ALNC staff is prepared to help families support individual decisions regarding masking.

We know that Dane County's COVID-19 level is currently 'high' and, as you may know, we have many additional layers of safety in place in our programs. We will continue to monitor symptoms and, for program participants, staff, and volunteers who test positive for or have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus, we will continue to require masking and quarantining according to PHMDC recommendations for children. We will also continue to review and revise our policies in accordance with guidelines and recommendations.

We understand that each family must make the decision that is right for them and our staff is prepared to support families and their children in these individual decisions. We know that some families have had concerns about past public health orders, while others may be concerned about our decision to make masks optional. Please know we are all working towards the same goal of keeping our kids safe, happy, and healthy.

This policy continues to be reviewed and revised as guidelines and circumstances regarding vaccine access and recommendations for children and their caregivers continue to change and we reserve the right to change this policy on short notice.

Updated guidelines from CDC and Public Health Madison & Dane County [strongly recommend that masks be worn indoors by anyone who is immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease OR by anyone who lives with or has social contact with someone who is immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease.](#)