



Memo

To: Arkansas Lighthouse Academies Families and School Community

From: Jennifer Holmes, Arkansas Lighthouse Academies State Director of Health

Our team has been working to ensure the safety of our scholars and staff members during the reopening of schools for the 20-21 academic year. It is important that we remain flexible during this time as we receive guidance and updates from the CDC, Arkansas Department of Health, and Arkansas Department of Education-DESE.

To ensure the safety of our scholar and staff, **face coverings are required to be worn at all times during the day.** (Classes and scholars will participate in face covering breaks throughout the course of each day.)

Following directives from the Arkansas Department of Health updated on August 26, 2020, all Arkansas Lighthouse Academies school districts will adhere to the following guidance:

A face covering completely covering the mouth and nose can be purchased commercially, a mask with an ASTM rating of at least Level 1, or homemade using at least two layers of material. Please see CDC Considerations for Wearing Face Coverings for more information.

Masks with valves are not allowed. Bandanas and single-layer neck gaiters¹ (a form of mask made out of stretchy, moisture-wicking fabric that is worn around the neck and pulled up over the nose and mouth) may not provide sufficient protection and are strongly discouraged. Bandanas and gaiters may be doubled to provide two layers of protection.

Scholars and staff that do not have appropriate face covering will be provided with a disposable mask.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support through this process.