



Official Correspondence

SUBJECT: INDOOR MASK MANDATE

02/24/2022

Dear parents, students, and staff,

Earlier this month, the Wayne County Health Department announced that it planned to lift the mask requirement for schools at the end of February.

Therefore, in accordance with this, Albayan Institute announces that face masks will become optional for all parents, students, and staff inside the school building beginning Saturday, February 26. Any parent, student, or staff who prefers to wear a face mask inside the school building may continue, and is encouraged, to do so.

The Institute will continue to provide masks for those who want them.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our administration has met regularly to address and plan for how to deal with this current and continuous struggle. We have required mask-wearing since the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year and based on the status of the pandemic, particularly the relatively low rate of infections, the mask mandate will be lifted. All our decisions have been made in the best interest of everyone involved.

Well-fitting masks are also still required for anyone returning from quarantine less than 10 days after their exposure.

We understand that this decision will come with mixed opinions among parents, but we hope everyone will be patient and understanding. The Institute will continue to provide masks for those who want them and will encourage all individuals to still wear a mask, if possible, to maximize their protection against COVID-19, and any other transmissible virus for that matter.

While we are hopeful that this pandemic *may* be finally coming to an end, we must add that this policy may change as the situation develops.

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