

Holland Bloorview's masking policy – Updated Nov. 1, 2023

Effective Nov. 1, 2023, **clients and families, staff, students, volunteers, vendors and visitors are required to wear masks while moving throughout the hospital, including while in elevators and washrooms.** In addition, the following restrictions remain in place:

Clients and families must wear a mask during all appointments, in waiting areas, in spaces where they are receiving care or participating in research, in meetings with staff or during events as attendees in any space.

Vendors and visitors must wear a mask when providing services of any kind in hallways, elevators or washrooms.

Staff, students and volunteers must wear a mask during all appointments, in waiting areas, in spaces where they are providing care or facilitating research with inpatients, while holding meetings with clients and families present or during events in any space where clients and families are present.

We continue to be a mask-friendly organization and masks can be worn in areas where it is optional. Please continue to respect the choices of others and be respectful of each other's personal space.

[An FAQ is available](#) for those with additional questions about masking, mask hygiene and safety.

Please see below for a list of spaces where masking is optional:

- In the cafeteria, Coriat Atrium, Family Resource Centre and conference centre
- During events held onsite that **do not** include clients and families (e.g. Salute and Celebrate)
- Meeting rooms that **do not** have clients and families attending
- Staff-only areas (e.g., lunch room, break room, office spaces, etc.)
- Select programming because of the nature of program space or type of client interaction:
 - Centralized Equipment Pool
 - BSA-IET classroom
 - HB nursery schools
 - KinderCare
 - Ronald McDonald Playroom
 - Music & Arts
 - Community Snoezelen
 - When going into client homes or community spaces
 - All outdoor client programming
- When behind a barrier, such as Plexiglass, in the following all-staff areas:
 - Main reception
 - Second floor reception
 - Dental reception
 - Family Resource Centre reception
 - Registration
- During brief media interviews and/or photo opportunities in any location (i.e. less than a few minutes)

While additional restrictions may be required again in the future, these changes help minimize the impact to our clients; help prevent outbreaks, exposures, isolation and further impact to the health care system. Masks remain an important tool to mitigate transmission spread and we thank you in advance for your continued efforts to keep our community safe.