



Face Covering Opt-Out Form 2021-2022

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends universal indoor masking in K-12 educational settings and emphasizes the importance of wearing masks to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in schools. Many school-aged children are not yet eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, leaving them more susceptible to infection. Therefore, to ensure that students and teachers are able to safely continue in-person instruction, BTCS COVID-19 Protocols strongly recommend that all students and staff wear masks inside our school buildings.

In addition, based on the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and district, Bristol Tennessee City Schools may implement temporary mask mandates and other additional measures as needed during the 2021-2022 school year to help mitigate the spread of the virus.

By completing this form, you are giving permission for your child to **not** wear a face covering while attending school in Bristol Tennessee City Schools. This permission does not apply to any local, state or federal order, such as riding a school bus, or any TSSAA rule. A separate form must be completed for each student for whom you are giving permission. This form will remain in effect for your child related to any mask mandates issued for the 2021-2022 school year.

Child's First Name:		Child's Last Name:	
Date of Birth:		School:	
Grade:		Homeroom Teacher:	

Agreement

By signing below, I attest to the following:

- I sign this form freely and voluntarily, and I am authorized to make decisions for the student referenced above.
- I acknowledge that the CDC recommends that students wear face coverings in the school environment to protect against the spread of COVID-19.
- I am aware that I have the opportunity to discuss with healthcare providers whether my child should wear a face covering.
- I understand that there is a great deal the medical and scientific communities still do not know about COVID-19, including how easily it may spread and its long-term effects on the health of a child.
- I understand and agree, therefore, that there is an unknown risk associated with my child attending school without a face covering, and I have discussed these risks with my child.
- I understand that my child is still required to comply with all local, state, or federal orders regarding face coverings.
- I understand that my child is still required to follow all TSSAA rules and guidelines regarding face coverings if participating in school athletics.
- With the exception of face covering requirements, I understand that my child shall remain subject to all other school and school district requirements, including any related to COVID-19.
- I understand that I may update this permission form for my child at any time by contacting the school office.
- **I give my child permission NOT to wear a face covering at school, and, for myself and my child, I assume any and all risks associated with this decision.**

Parent/Guardian Print Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____