

Dear Head Start Families,

As you may be aware On Friday, April 16, 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued an emergency order related to gatherings and face masks. This order will directly impact Adrian Public Schools Head Start Early Childhood Programs, in relation to the requirement for child face coverings.

Beginning on Monday, April 26, 2021, all children ages **2 years old or above** will be required to wear a cloth face covering during care (excluding when eating/drinking or sleeping). This is true for Early Head Start (Center Based and Home Based In Person Services) and Head Start (In Person Services).

This is a change from our previous practice, which allowed for children to remove their masks once in their assigned classroom space, this is no longer allowable for our program to remain providing In Person learning services.

As a child care provider, we are aware that this requirement may be hard to hear or plan for, the program dedicates itself to providing the highest quality, safest learning environment for all enrolled children. Program staff will begin practicing and discussing this with children this week in preparation for Monday.

We ask as parents, you all begin practicing with your child as well. As a reminder this mask mandate will also impact all public places, so mask wearing is something to consider practicing to prepare your child for trips in public as well.

We thank you for your continued support.

David Bull Director

