Helsinki Helsingfors Sosiaali- ja terveystoimi Social- och hälsovårdssektorn Social Services and Health Care 2021

Recommendation for citizens regarding the use of face masks



The Metropolitan Area coronavirus coordination group recommends the use of face masks to everyone over the age of 12:

- ▶ In public indoor facilities at all times if the person is not fully vaccinated or if the person has not had COVID-19 within the last six months.
- ▶ In public transport and public indoor facilities with large numbers of people in close proximity to each other, such as public events, religious gatherings and restaurants.
- ▶ Outdoors during prolonged congestion.
- ▶ On the way to a coronavirus test and before receiving the test results if the person has a compelling reason to leave their home.
- ▶ In all situations where avoiding close contact is difficult.

Checklist for wearing a mask

- ▶ Make sure that you have as many masks as you need throughout the day.
- ▶ Carry a bottle of hand sanitiser and extra masks for changing, if necessary.
- ▶ Place the mask on your face well before using public transportation.
- ▶ Wash or sanitise your hands before putting on a new or clean mask.
- ▶ Make sure that the mask is placed tightly over your face and covers your mouth, nose and chin.
- ▶ Do not touch the mask or move it under your chin or onto your forehead while wearing it.
- ▶ If you touch the mask while wearing it, wash or sanitise your hands before and after touching it.
- ▶ Do not wear a used mask again.
- ▶ Replace the mask with a new one if it gets wet or dirty.
- ▶ Remove the mask by the straps with clean hands. Do not touch the outer surface of the mask when removing it.
- ▶ Place a disposable mask directly in a waste bin after use. Place a reusable cloth mask in a plastic bag or directly into a washing machine.
- ▶ Wash or sanitise your hands after removing the mask.
- ▶ Wash a cloth mask on a 60 °C wash cycle after every use or boil it for five minutes in water with a small amount of detergent. Rinse the mask and dry it in a place with fresh air.
- ▶ Wash new cloth masks before wearing them for the first time.