

Date: 13 July 2023

## RE: Mask Wearing Requirements For Bethlehem Services

In accordance with the current pandemic risk we are changing the requirements for mask wearing as follows. These changes take effect from 9 am, Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2023. Staff includes contractors.

### 1. All staff (including contractors) engaged in patient-facing work are to wear surgical masks.

Research staff taking patients between the waiting area in clinic and the research rooms, staff taking patients to and from clinical/front-of-house areas of L1 (the music therapy studio, the OT/Physio gyms and tech rooms and the pool), reception staff in clinic on level one, staff meeting patients in the main front entrance, all staff in the ward on the ground floor and all staff in the clinical space on level one (the uncarpeted clinic area) must wear a surgical mask. Community staff must wear a surgical mask when visiting patients, clients and their families on home visits. Staff working in offices/rooms without patient contact in these areas are not required to wear a surgical mask when in those offices/rooms without patients.

### 2. Masks are optional in non-clinical areas

Staff (including contractors) working on level two, in the LDC offices on level one, in offices in the carpeted space on level one (CPCS, A&I, Research, CL Team, etc...), in the Allied Health Hubs on the lower floor (L1), in the back-of-house areas of the lower floor (L1), and transiting through the clinic reception from the non-clinical area on level one do not need to wear a mask. Masks are also optional in the space outside the LDC offices on level 1, reception staff at the main front entrance, the corridors in the front-of-house area of the lower ground floor (L1 around the music therapy studio, the OT/Physio gyms and tech rooms and the pool) and in the lifts.

Staff members can wear surgical masks or N95 masks at any time if they so wish, however N95 masks must be worn if in enhanced precautions or when providing care to a patient in isolation.

### 3. Visitors

Visitors are required to wear a surgical mask, but may wear an N95 if they prefer.

Yours sincerely,



Rowan Hearn

**Director of Medical Services and Palliative Medicine**