

Children's Court of New South Wales

Please note that <u>Public Health (COVID-19) Temporary Movement and</u> <u>Gathering Restrictions) Order 2021</u> applies to courts. Therefore, the Public Health Order applies in the Children's Court if it is inconsistent with this Public Notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC No. 8

Fitted Face Coverings (Face Masks)

5 January 2021

The Children's Court continues to monitor the advice of health authorities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Consistent with the general intent of the *Public Health (COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings) Order 2021* (the Public Health Order) the following arrangements are to apply in the Children's Court from 11 January 2021 until further notice.

Children's Courts in the Greater Sydney Region

- 1. Face masks should be worn in any indoor public waiting area of the court house unless a person is exempt from wearing a face mask under the Public Health Order.
- 2. Participants in any court proceedings may and are encouraged to wear a face mask in the court room unless the judicial officer hearing the case determines otherwise.
- 3. Participants in any dispute resolution conference under the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* or a conference under the *Education Act 1990* facilitated by a Children's Registrar may be required to wear a face mask when attending a conference in person if the Children's Registrar determines this is appropriate to ensure the safety of all persons participating in the conference.
- 4. For the purposes of this Notice these arrangements are to apply in relation to Children's Court proceedings in the following Children's Courts;
 - Parramatta Children's Court
 - Surry Hills Children's Court
 - Campbelltown Children's Court

- Windsor Children's Court
- Katoomba Children's Court
- Port Kembla Children's Court
- Woy Woy Children's Court
- Wyong Children's Court

Other Children's Courts

- 5. Participants involved in Children's Court proceedings in other locations are encouraged to wear a mask in indoor public waiting areas.
- 6. Face masks may be worn in a courtroom unless the judicial officer determines otherwise.

General

- 7. All other arrangements specified in earlier Public Notices issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to operate.
- 8. Please note that these arrangements are subject to change at short notice.

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Judge Peter Johnstone

President of the Children's Court of NSW