To (NAME OF SCHOOL)

Attention ( Name of Principal)

Dear Principal,

**RE: The Mandatory requirement for children to wear a Mask at school**

I do not know what the school's policy is on mask-wearing, but I wish to make it clear that the government has provided a statutory exemption with respect to students being required to wear masks at school.

In this regard I refer you to clause 2.17(i) of the NSW Public Health Orders. Accordingly, if the government's position from a public health perspective, is that students are not required to wear masks at school, then it would be unreasonable for the school to impose any requirements in excess of the government's requirements.

For your reference I have attached a link to the PHO that I have referred to above.

<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/file/Public%20Health%20(COVID-19%20General)%20Order%202021_211027.pdf>

I understand that your school or other schools may be imposing such guidelines, and in my respectful submission, this is unlawful and unreasonable.

Suffice to say that in addition to the above, there are ample studies that support the adverse effect that wearing such masks can have on our children and the effectiveness of same. I will not bombard you with all this data at this stage, but you as the principal should certainly be aware of these, especially if you attempt to mandate such a requirement on the students at your school:

Study article: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18500410/>

Study article: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33215698/>

Study article: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/4014006/>

Study article: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32027586/>

Study article:  <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32232837/>

I also trust that, other than mentioning the current recommendation that students wear masks, students will not be pressured or encouraged in any way to do so. This is because wearing a mask is a medical intervention and school staff are not appropriately qualified to comment on the risks or benefits of medical matters. The discussion of, and decision to wear a mask (or not), and the risks and benefits of wearing a mask, are medical matters that should remain with each student on advice or instruction from their parent/guardian and family doctor.

Safe usage of a mask also requires proper education and instruction. Given that school teachers are generally not trained or qualified to instruct in this intervention, and public instruction on mask wearing could constitute influencing or pressuring a child to wear a mask, I trust that the school will refrain from undertaking any public instructions on mask wearing also.

Finally, I trust that my child will not be subject to any questions about whether or not they are wearing a mask, or for their reason not to wear a mask. This could result in a child providing personal and sensitive information in breach of their privacy, and could also constitute discrimination. Such questions could also lead to a discussion about the medical risks or benefits of masking, and the school, its teachers and students are simply not qualified to provide an opinion on that matter.

**Vaccination Status**

With respect to vaccinations, I have heard that there are some students (or in some cases, teachers) who are asking other people's vaccination status. In some schools, students have been bullied and singled out for being unvaccinated, such behaviour is unacceptable.

I trust that my child will not be subject to any questions about whether or not they are vaccinated, because this is sensitive medical information, nor any discussion about the medical risks or benefits of vaccination against COVID-19, as the school, its teachers or students are simply not qualified to provide an opinion on that matter.

I remind you that such information is personal and sensitive information under the federal Privacy Act, and that any person making such requests should be immediately directed to stop such invasive questioning, and if such questioning continues, appropriately disciplined.

Further, treating a person differently on the basis of their vaccination status, particularly where this is not mandated by the government, may constitute discrimination under the federal Disability Discrimination Act.

I have received legal advice with respect to this matter and I have been advised by **Maatouks Law Group** that they have a matter currently in the **High Court of Australia** touching on these very issues and are seeking an injunction with respect to vaccinations on children aged 0 to 19.

In closing, I note that it would be prudent for the school to instruct all staff and students on the above matters, as breaches or privacy and discrimination law could result in legal action being taken against the school, again a task that Peter Maatouk, the Principal of Maatouks Law Group stands ready to take should it become necessary.

I reserve all my child's rights to the privacy of their sensitive medical information, and their right to make their own medical choices, on proper advice from the parent/guardian and family doctor.

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

(Parents name and details)

(Children’s names and details)