



St Mary's Catholic First School
 Lucetta Lane, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 2DD
 Tel: 01305 262258
 Fax: 01305 257101

E-mail: office@stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk
 Website: www.stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



17th February 2022

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your continued support throughout the last two years ensuring that as a school family we have done as much as possible to stop the spread of COVID in our school while providing the children with a wide range of exciting learning opportunities.

We look forward to returning to the “new normal” on Tuesday 1st March.

Please see the table below for updated information.

Face coverings	Staff will no longer wear face coverings in communal areas. Parents are not required to wear masks on site.
School Trips	All school trips will recommence.
Face to face meetings with Parents	Can recommence.
Whole school assembly Whole school events	Assemblies, performances, open days/evenings, parents' evenings, lunchtimes, break times, beginning and end of school day arrangements as normal. However a reminder will go to the whole school community to advise that unwell or COVID positive adults/children should not attend events.



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<p>Risk assessments/control measures to ensure that hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, ventilation and cleaning of surfaces is understood and complied with by everyone</p>	<p>Ventilation, and good hand and respiratory hygiene will remain good practice in the prevention of the spread of viruses and infections.</p>
<p>Current government guidance on testing positive for COVID</p>	<p>People self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature.</p> <p>It is crucial that people isolating with COVID-19 wait until they have received and reported 2 negative rapid lateral flow tests on 2 consecutive days to reduce the chance of still being infectious.</p> <p>The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. If an individual is positive on day 5, then a negative test is required on day 6 and then day 7 to release from isolation.</p> <p>If an individual remains positive, they must self-isolate for the full 10 days.</p> <p>Please note: The government are due to make an announcement/possible changes to testing requirements.</p>
	<p>People who are fully vaccinated (and children aged 5-18.5 years, regardless of vaccination status) and identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take an NHS rapid lateral flow test every day for 7 days to help slow the spread of COVID-19. They can attend work/school whilst testing negative and not displaying symptoms.</p> <p>Unvaccinated adults are not eligible for this new daily testing policy, they must self-isolate for 10 days if they are a contact of someone who tests positive for COVID-19 – Omicron or not - see above</p>
<p>Testing</p>	<p>Staff will continue to test twice weekly.</p>



	Parents/visitors are asked to take a lateral flow test before entering the school building for meetings, assisting with trips, etc.
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Wishing you all a very restful half term with your families.

Yours sincerely

P. Fearn

Mrs Paula Fearn
Head Teacher



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