

ST MARY'S CE FIRST ACADEMY & NURSERY

MARSTON ROAD, WHEATON ASTON, STAFFORD ST19 9PQ

TEL: 01785 840314

Executive Principal:

Head of School:

E mail:

www.st-marys-wheatonaston.staffs.sch.uk

Mr R Dickson

Mrs N R Brennan

office@st-marys-wheatonaston.staffs.sch.uk



Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will no doubt have seen, on Sunday 2nd January, the Prime Minister announced new measures following the spread of the Omicron variant in the UK. The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of this variant. We have been assured that the government will continue to keep educational settings updated as the situation develops.

Face coverings

- Pupils at St. Mary's do not need to wear facemasks.
- Face coverings should be worn in communal areas by staff and visitors aged 12+. Staff and visitors will also be expected to wear their coverings whilst moving around the school building and in communal areas.
- Staff may choose to wear face masks and/or face shields when teaching.
- Parents and visitors can choose if they would like to wear face coverings outside of the academy building.

Testing

- Staff will continue to test twice a week.
- Families are now asked to test regularly using LFD test kits.
- All visitors are asked to test using an LFD test kit before entering the site.
- All LFD test results must be uploaded to the government website, and we politely ask that any positive results are emailed to office@st-marys-wheatonaston.staffs.sch.uk

Should members of school staff become ill it may be very difficult to recruit temporary replacement staff members in the current climate. Most agencies are struggling to fulfil supply bookings as most of their workers are already covering in schools. This may result in classes being sent home and remote learning protocols initiated with pupils having to work from home using activities and links from Class Dojo or via Microsoft TEAMS. This is not ideal for pupils' learning and therefore it is another reason why the safety of pupils, staff and our school community continues to be the upmost importance at this time.

Since the beginning of the lockdown, we have always taken a careful and cautious approach to the effects of Covid-19 within the academy. By continuing to respond to Covid-19 guidance we will hopefully continue to keep disruption to a minimum and most importantly, keeping our pupils, staff and wider community as safe as possible. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Kind Regards

Mrs N.R Brennan
Head of school