



8th November 2021

Summary of actions:

Hands Face Space Replace

Making St Mary's as COVID secure as possible in the light of the new variant

It seems that COVID is here to stay and we need to learn to live with it amongst us. We need to put in place as many mitigations as we can with sensible hygiene and ventilation, whilst sustaining high quality teaching and learning. **In the light of increasing cases in the community, and subsequently in school, we have updated this summary. All changes marked in red.**

All staff working on site

Hands:

- Sanitise hands immediately on entering the site
- Wash hand at least once every 1.30 hours
- Clean surfaces in the staff rooms after touching them

Face:

Face masks no longer mandatory but can be worn:

- a) if desired by the staff member at any time

Facemasks MUST be worn:

- b) **by all staff in shared areas**
- c) **if a member of staff has recently been ill**
- d) **if member of staff is awaiting results of a PCR test but is double vaccinated and **not symptomatic****

Space:

- Staff meetings, SLT meetings, & PPA to be on site as usual but ventilate spaces
- Maintain a good distance from all other adults on site
- Minimise time spent in staff rooms
- Minimise time spent as year group bubbles in the halls

Replace:

- Keep doors and windows open as much as possible
- Leave doors open during break and lunchtimes
- Wear a lot of layers if you are cold!
- **In classes with confirmed cases, CO2 monitors should be used to double check quality of ventilation. More doors and windows should be opened if levels are not 'good'**

Children

- Hands: Keep up high levels of vigilance on hand washing. *(Encourage use of hand cream)*
- Space: Firm reminders to all children about the importance of keeping distance
- Replace: The classrooms are going to be VERY well ventilated.

Parents

- Comply with ALL government COVID guidance
- Keep children at home if they are showing/reporting even the slightest signs of being unwell. *(all the of the positive cases in children reported so far started off with a slight headache and upset stomach – or had absolutely no symptoms)*
- Support children in engaging with online learning

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Rules for Isolation:

There is some confusion about when to test and what the results mean...

If you have any **symptoms**:

- Book a PCR test and remain in isolation until you get the result
- Take a lateral flow test if you like – but if it is negative if you have SYMPTOMS you STILL HAVE TO ISOLATE until the result of a PCR test

If you **DO NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS** but have been a close contact (and are fully vaccinated or are a child):

- Book a PCR test ONCE THE PERSON YOU HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HAS A POSITIVE PCR RESULT i.e. NOT just when they have a positive lateral flow test
- Take regular lateral flow tests
- Try to keep distance from anyone in the household who had COVID
- Wear face coverings if in school

At Home:

- If a **child** in school tests **positive on an lateral flow test** they should self-isolate until they get a PCR result - and for 10 days if the PCR is positive but no other child needs to remain at home, online learning will be provided if they are well enough to access
- If an **adult** tests positive any child considered to have had close contact will be advised to take an lateral flow test.
- Parents will be informed if a child or an adult in their class has tested positive

Online learning

This will continue as before for **individuals** who are isolating because they have COVID or are awaiting the result of a test. It is crucial that all families check that they can access this. Please contact your class teacher and copy in your year leader for online learning.

Additional measures:

We are keen to go ahead with parents coming to school to see assemblies and performances if at all possible! We have already

- Limited the number of children performing at any one time (and therefore likely number of adults)
- Spread out the performances

However, we do need to take additional precautionary measures. We have seen too many cases of fully vaccinated adults still contracting COVID therefore, for any adult wishing to attend one of these events, **we will require sight of the result of an lateral flow test taken THAT MORNING and reported to NHS (be ready to show your phones!)**

Anyone arriving without such a result will be offered the chance to take a test in school and wait the 30 minutes for the result – but this may mean that they miss the performance.

This is a non-negotiable condition of entry to site. We will film the performances so that any one unwilling, or unable to test, and anyone uncomfortable with being in a crowd can still share in the experience.

We will of course need to keep the situation under review – and may need restrict access to the site further if things change.

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