

## Dear Parent/Carer,

In line with the new national guidance as set out by the Prime Minister on 21st February, please find a summary of the changes below:

- 1. <u>Displaying COVID-19 symptoms</u>- if your child is displaying any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 they should stay at home and arrange for a PCR test to be taken. Please do not send your child into school if they are symptomatic and report to school that your child has symptoms/has tested positive.
- 2. **Self-isolation** if your child tests positive for COVID-19 they are **still advised to stay at home** and avoid contact with other people. After 5 days, they may choose to take a LFD, followed by another the next day if both are negative, and they do not have a temperature, they can safely return to their normal routine and attend school.
- 3. **Asymptomatic testing** the guidance for staff and students to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing has been removed. Students will not be issued with any further packs of lateral flow device tests.
- 4. **Face coverings** Students and staff can continue to wear face coverings, if they so wish but they are not required in school.

As a school we will be continuing to put voluntary additional measures in place to minimise the risk of transmission within the school setting. These include:

- Ensuring good hygiene for everyone by encouraging students to sanitise their hands regularly throughout the day
- Maintaining proper cleaning regimes
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated
- Following Public Health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

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We will continue to work closely with the local Public Health team and in the event of a local outbreak we may need to put additional, temporary measures in place.

Thank you in advance for your support as we move into a new phase of managing COVID-19 within schools.

A. McClurey

Headteacher

**Headteacher:** Mrs A McClurey St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Tennyson Avenue, Grangetown, Middlesbrough, TS6 7AD





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Headteacher: Mrs A McClurey
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Tennyson Avenue, Grangetown, Middlesbrough, TS6 7AD
Tel: 01642 455309 | Email: enquiries@stmarys.npcat.org.uk | Website: stmarys.npcat.org.uk

