

26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Dear Parent/Carer,

**RE: Updated COVID Contingency Measures from Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

The government has confirmed its decision to remove the requirement to wear face coverings in communal areas from the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022. It is a personal choice of pupils whether to continue to wear masks in communal areas. Please see government guidance on when and where they recommend face coverings: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

In addition, at St Michael's, we will be continuing to monitor infection rates and, if thresholds are reached, outlined in the government's operational guidance for school, Public Health England will be informed. This may result in additional contingency measures returning for a limited period of time.

Pupils will be able to use the biometric scanners to purchase food and drinks at break and lunch in the school canteen from Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. We encourage pupils to hand sanitise before and after using the scanners. Please ensure that money is loaded onto Parent Pay to ensure that your child can purchase food in school. Please note that the overdraft capacity is no longer available on Parent Pay. After half term, pupils will be able to use the Reval cash machines to top up their accounts.

We ask that all pupils continue to take lateral flow tests twice a week. Please ensure that the results of these tests, negative or positive, are reported to the NHS and the results are reported to the school by email ([covid@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:covid@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk)) or by text to 07578784910. It is especially important to follow these instructions if your child is self-isolating and retesting on days 5 and 6 to come back to school. This will ensure that they return to lessons without delay on their return to school.

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'C Handy-Rivett'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the 't'.

Mrs C Handy-Rivett  
**Acting Headteacher**

Acting Headteacher: **Mrs C Handy-Rivett, BA (Hons), MA**

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