



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery
Headteacher Mrs Janet Mullally
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2nd December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Updated COVID19 safety measures

You will know that the Prime Minister announced new temporary COVID19 measures on Saturday 27 November. These new measures have been introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. As a result of this, the Department for Education has updated their guidance for all education settings. Please note how these changes apply to parents/carers below:

Face coverings

Face coverings should be worn in communal areas of the school by staff and 'visitors' to school, unless they are exempt. Please note the following:

- we encourage parents/carers to wear a face-covering whilst walking through the school entrance hallway at dismissal time – due to the significant numbers of parents/carers required to walk through this enclosed space of our school building;
- parents/carers should wear a face-covering for any visits to the school building – including entering the reception office area, attending on-site meetings or attending school events.

Testing

Parents are encouraged to avail of free LFD test kits in order to **regularly test household members**. Testing continues to be a very effective means reducing the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks in schools. Please also continue to be vigilant for COVID19 symptoms amongst children – if you suspect your child may be presenting symptoms, please do not send them to school and follow isolation and PCR testing guidance. This will help us to minimise the risk of an outbreak within the school.

Contact tracing and isolation

Please continue to carefully follow [current guidance](#) on **contact tracing and isolation**. Any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

Sacred Heart, like other schools, have recently experienced increased levels of cases amongst both pupils and staff members. Although the number of cases have increased, the levels in the school currently are not a cause for concern. We hope that support of the measures outlined above will help to prevent further increases. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Janet Mullally
Headteacher

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