

4th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family have had a good break.

I am writing to update you with the latest guidance we have received from the Department for Education.

Face Coverings

Face coverings must now be worn by students in all indoor areas, including the classroom. Please ensure your child has access to a supply of masks so that they have a clean mask each day. Reusable face coverings may be purchased from the General office at a cost of £1 each.

Covid Testing

As you will be aware, the DfE has said that all students should be tested before they return to the classroom this term. In order to do this, we require consent from parents of students in Years 8-11. If you have not done so already and you are a parent of a child in these year groups, please complete the form, [whether you give consent or not by 8pm today, Tuesday 4th January](#). The consent given in September for Year 7 students for testing is still valid so further consent is not necessary for this year group.

If your child is in Year 8, 9, 10 or 11, [please click on this link and complete the form](#), even if you have completed a similar form for testing sessions previously. Details regarding the return to school and testing were communicated at the end of term and [may be found on our website here](#). If you do not consent to your child having a test, please do not send them in to school on the day their year group is being tested.

Bi-weekly Covid tests

For the health and safety of our community, please continue to ensure that your child tests twice weekly, as per the reminders you are receiving. Additional test kits will be sent home with your child following their test in school.

Covid Symptoms

Experts are learning more about the new variant each day and it appears Omicron has some symptoms that are slightly different from before.

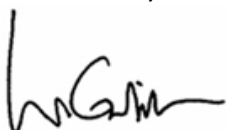
There are reports that some young Omicron patients are experiencing

- A skin rash,
- fatigue,
- bad headaches and
- a loss of appetite.

If your child has these or any of the classic symptoms (temperature and/or cough and/or loss of taste/smell), please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test. Please notify us if the result of this is positive and keep your child at home to self-isolate.

Once again, thank you for your support so that we can ensure our community remains as safe and healthy as possible.

Yours faithfully



Wanda Golinska
Headteacher



**Southfields
Academy**

**Principal:
Ms Jacqueline Valin**

**Headteacher:
Ms Wanda Golinska**

333 Merton Road
London SW18 5JU

Tel: 020 8875 2600
Fax: 020 8874 9949