

STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher
Mr Malcolm Meaby

4th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, we find ourselves starting a new term with nationally growing cases of COVID. As you know, we are committed to keeping school as normal as possible for our children, whilst ensuring their continued safety. Government guidelines for schools remain the same. I am sure you will be reassured that our risk assessments are still in place and we will continue to follow the guidance from the Department for Education.

You will recall that we had a growing number of COVID cases in the Autumn term where we had to take measures to reduce the risks. These measures, which included going back into class bubbles, effectively stopped the spread of infection. We no longer have a need to operate in bubbles and the classes can enjoy playtimes together again.

As we stated before the Christmas break, there are contingency plans in place should the local or national situation change. I have outlined below some of the further measures we could take if necessary:

- classes may be put back into bubbles to reduce the infection rate or if government guidelines change
- classes may be combined to cover for staff illness. Last term we were able to cover all classes with existing staff, but if staff sickness should rise, we may have no option other than to do this (unless classes are in bubbles)
- we may ask parents to leave children at the gate and keep off school premises, to reduce the risk of adult to adult contact
- as a last resort, we may be forced to send groups of children home and, IF this is the case, we will provide on-line learning for those children

Please remember that you must send your child to school unless they are ill. Children should not be kept at home because they might get COVID. If this happens and there are no extenuating circumstances, they will be marked absent. If absence continues the case may be passed to Pupil Entitlement for investigation. We will not be setting work for children who are off sick but, if they are forced to isolate, we will send work for them.



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I hope that you will be reassured by the measures that are in place and that may be introduced if the situation changes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions – I hope that things will improve and that we will soon be able to return to normality.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Meaby', with a stylized, cursive script.

Malcolm Meaby
Headteacher