



8 January 2022

Dear Parents,

We have managed to get to the end of the first week and the children and staff have loved being back in school and have been sharing the stories of their Christmas holidays; which seems to have disappeared in a blink of an eye! It is lovely to have the school filled with chatter and laughter from the children and staff team.

I just wanted to follow up the brief email that was sent yesterday regarding the delayed start of the clubs with a more detailed letter to you explaining some slight temporary changes in school operation and the purposes behind these changes.

As mentioned previously, Kate and I are delighted to be able to support Stoke Row over the coming months and are looking forward to working with the children, staff, governors and yourselves, in this lovely village school.

For this arrangement to work for both schools, I am currently proposing to put in place some temporary measures to mitigate the spread of Covid between the two schools. The recent Local Authority meeting raised that there is a significant rise in cases and an increase in staff being off - this will not be new news to you as it has been very much in the press recently. As a small school where there is not an abundance of staff to cover any absence, our main priority in this area is that your child is in school and we need to put in all we can to ensure this business continuity.

Both Kate and I listened to staff during the INSET day and enhancing the protective measures in school - going to Key Stage bubbles - was an approach that staff felt was needed after returning from the holidays and to protect them as a staff team. Staff have been allocated to classes in school which does not allow them to cross a bubble. We appreciate that this differs from official guidance and, as with anything that is put in place in school, these measures will be reviewed and amended according to the situation and risk assessment. The governors, Kate and I will be discussing these measures at the Full Governing Board meeting on Monday night.

I understand that my earlier brief email may have caused some concern or worry around clubs, which are used for childcare arrangements as well as for the children's enjoyment and personal development, and for that I do sincerely apologise as this was not the intention. We hope that you appreciate that both Kate and I have only just stepped foot into the school and are trying to get up to speed with everything as fast as we can. I anticipate looking at the arrangements for clubs on Monday afternoon to see how we can operate these in the Covid safe way we currently have in

Stoke Row CE Primary School
School Lane, Stoke Row
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Acting Headteachers –
Steph Fawdry/Kate Galvin

Kindness • Respect • Perseverance • Excellence • Courage



Stoke Row is a very safe and harmonious place for pupils to learn and flourish. Pupils' behaviour is exemplary. They are kind, respectful and welcoming and contribute fully to the positive learning environment throughout the school.
Ofsted 2018

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school, and as we do with the breakfast club and Kate and I will also be discussing this with the governors on Monday night - thank you for bearing with us whilst this is done.

Regarding the RAPA club, I apologise again to those parents who were inconvenienced by news that we were expecting to delay the start of this club. However, we have some brilliant news in that the RAPA club will be operating out of the Village Hall on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays as from this Monday (10th January). Should you wish to ensure your child is booked in with Tracy, her email address is rapa.round.care@gmail.com. The plan is still for the club to run at the school in due course.

It will take a couple of weeks for me and Kate to get into a regular working pattern in school and thank you for your patience with us as we do this. Please can I ask that should you wish to contact us that you do this via Stoke Row school office only.

Finally, just on a personal note which I am sure many of you share, I cannot tell you how fed up of Covid we all are and how much everyone in the profession - including the wonderful team at Stoke Row - long for a return to complete normality after a very challenging 2 academic years. However, your support and understanding at this time with the enhanced measures we are putting in place to protect everyone means so much.

Thank you for your time in reading this, apologies again for the inconvenience and I hope that you have a lovely weekend and I will be back in touch with you at the start of next week.

Best wishes

Steph Fawdry
Acting Headteacher

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