



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

Lower Road

Stoke Mandeville

Aylesbury

Buckinghamshire HP22 5XA

Tel: 01296 612371

Headteacher: Mrs E Stewart B.Ed. Hons (Lon) NPQH

[office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk)

[www.stokemandeville.eschools.co.uk](http://www.stokemandeville.eschools.co.uk)

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

## Re-opening of school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent's /Carers,

I want to write to share and reassure you of the measures we have in place and how we will continue to support children learning in school.

Following the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson's, announcement that primary schools will be returning to school from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, or in our case children returning on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, I felt you would like some further information about how we at Stoke Mandeville Combined School will continue to support face to face learning.

During the autumn term as a school we consistently achieved above national figures for primary school attendance with an average being at 97.1% attendance. I realise this is due to many different factors but clearly it demonstrates many of the measures we have put in place have helped keep children in school. It would be very difficult with this data to suggest that our school is not able to open as near to normal as is possible. We have to date only had 3 cases of Covid and these have not been tracked back to school spread. I have been very heartened by the good communication even using the dedicated Covid email ( [covid@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:covid@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk) ).

The measures we have put in place to review how we can continue to open safely are:-

1. There has been significant deep cleaning being carried out over the Christmas break with every area thoroughly cleaned to a high standard.
2. The risk assessment has been again reviewed and in light of this if parents would like their child in Key Stage 2 to wear a face covering both coming into school and leaving school or during playtimes this will be permissible. Children will need to store the face covering in a plastic bag when they are in class.



3. Timings for entry and exit to school will remain the same but we must enforce the 1 adult only on site to reduce the numbers of people entering school property. If parents would prefer to wait for Key Stage 2 children at the front layby this needs to be communicated to the office who will ensure the class teacher knows.
4. New signage to request parents wear a face covering, do not gather outside the school gate and remain socially distanced when on site.

As the Secretary of State has said primary schools must now reopen next week we are not able to authorise absence for children outside of current government guidance or the school attendance policy.

The current situation is undoubtedly worrying for everyone, but we all have a place to ensure our children are provided with the best opportunities we can offer and we need to support them not to be anxious in these difficult circumstances. If a “bubble” were unable to open I would follow best endeavours to ensure parents and carers have a much notice of these incidents as possible.

I look forward to meeting you all on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January as we begin the Spring term of 2021, and hope with your continued support and compliance to regulations we will be able to find a “normal “ for this New Year.

*Happy New Year to you all.*

Kind regards

*E Stewart*

Mrs E Stewart

