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Friday 11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Track and Trace notifications

I hope that you and your families are well and preparing for the festive period ahead, following the Government guidance.

During the Christmas holidays, it is vital that our school staff are able to relax and enjoy time with their families. The Government has suggested that schools could rearrange an Inset day for the last day of term, 18 December. The principal purpose of this would be to reduce the number of days into the Christmas holidays when school staff would have to be available to help identify contacts for children and staff, who might test positive at the start of the holidays.

We feel that it would not be right to arrange an extra Inset day for next Friday at such short notice, given the impact on key workers and the disruption some pupils and families have faced already during this term.

You can support our staff, who really do need as much of an uninterrupted break as possible, by following the guidelines below:

- Do not send your child into school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms (new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste / smell). If you feel that any of these are present, please support school staff and other pupils by keeping your child at home. Any siblings must stay at home as well – even if they have no symptoms.
- Arrange for a test for anyone who has symptoms, as soon as you notice the symptoms, and let the school know the outcome. If a child tests positive and symptoms started on Sunday 20 December or earlier, you will need to contact the school using the following dedicated email address: track@stonebowps.net so that we can start tracking close contacts.

If symptoms started after Sunday 20 December, you will NOT need to contact the school.

- Where one member of the household has symptoms, everyone in the household must stay at home until the person with symptoms has a negative test.
- Where one member of the household tests positive, everyone in the household must isolate for 14 days.

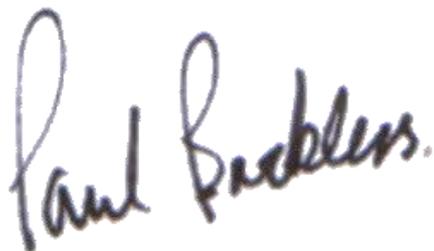
As we approach Christmas, you can help minimise the risk to our school staff by following the guidelines very carefully and, if you are not sure, you can visit the NHS website or ring NHS 111. By following the guidance to the letter, you will be supporting staff in our schools.

Although it has been a very different December in school this year, the children remain in good spirits and are looking forward to the seasonal events planned in the final week, as detailed in the newsletter.

A reminder that the children return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**, following our scheduled Inset Day on the 4th January.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and continued support throughout this challenging period. I hope you enjoy a very happy Christmas and that 2021 brings much hope and joy for you and your families.

Yours sincerely



Paul Brockless

Headteacher



18/10/20 June 2021

