



# Happy New Year!

## Good Morning,

We hope you have had a relaxing break as much as possible.

We have every intention of school opening on Monday 4th January. As an Alternative Provision school all current documentation outlines that our type of school must remain open, unless we have positive COVID cases and bubble closures. However, there are likely to be further updates over the weekend.

We may have issues with transport. Many of the passenger assistants for the Local Authority are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and the advice is that they should remain at home. This could resort in a shortage of people who are able to transport the children. We have not had information as yet, however there may be teething problems on Monday. We ask you to be patient and work with us. We will be working with transport to get any issues rectified as quickly as possible. Please have your child ready for school and for their transport. Micaela Armstrong – family liaison will be in school from around 7:30am in order to deal with any queries.

You may feel anxious or worried about sending your child to school since the news reports at present outline that the new variant spreads more easily in children. Whilst we cannot be 100% COVID secure we do have measures in place to prevent the spread of the virus and we are adhering to all recommendations. We will continue to ensure regular hand washing, social distancing where possible and keep the bubbles separate. It is really important to our school community that you follow the tier 4 guidelines and do not put our school community at risk.

If you are protecting your family and don't feel that school is safe then we will need to discuss this further. I am still waiting for guidance on this area. Therefore, please email me and I will contact you on Monday.

[head@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk)

Lastly, please be extra vigilant around illnesses. If a member of your household has symptoms. Please isolate your family until you have had a test and the results. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Dodd and the team at Stepping Stones