Dear Parents,

It has come to my attention today that some parents are choosing to use their class Facebook group pages to voice certain misgivings they may have about school practice. I am writing to tell you of my own increasing concerns about this process.

I appreciate the enormous benefits of having this form of instant online communication within class parent groups, especially for those of you who are not in the playground at the start or the end of the school day. However, my concern is that the ‘threads’ on these pages can quickly disintegrate into either comparative commentary about your children’s learning or even something derogatory about my school.

I must reiterate, therefore, that should you have any concerns regarding the education of your child, you contact either myself or your child’s class teacher immediately, rather than airing your concerns on Facebook. Teachers are directly contactable via the email section at the bottom of their class pages on the website and you all know my email address by now. It is amazing how quickly these issues can be resolved if we know about them, but much, MUCH harder if we only hear about them from a parent who has seen something worrying on Facebook.

The class representatives who meet with me regularly at our Parent Forum sessions are fully aware of my concerns about any parents who might be abusing this current Facebook setup. I know that the majority of you are using this system positively, and I hope that others will make better use of the school’s own systems of direct communication with teachers in future.

Thank you for your continued support with this sensitive matter.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Stokes