

Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website

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Important information regarding school closure as of Tuesday 5th January 2021 to all children except those who are vulnerable or children of key workers.

3.1.2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last few days, teaching unions have advised that it is not safe, due to high Covid rates, to reopen schools. They have written to Head Teachers informing them that staff union members have the right to refuse to attend the school setting to teach whole classes of children.

Today, I received letters from a number of staff informing me that they do not feel it is safe or appropriate for them to teach whole classes of children.

Following this information, I have consulted with Governors, the NEU and followed LA guidance. As a result, with the continued safety of the community as our priority, we will not reopen on **Tuesday January 5th**. We sincerely apologise for the short notice, however, information and advice continues to change on a daily basis which makes it difficult for us to plan ahead.

School will reopen on Tuesday 5th January for **pupils of key workers and for vulnerable pupils only**. Remote learning will continue for all other pupils. Key worker and vulnerable pupil guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If you would like a school place for your child\ children as key workers or as a vulnerable child, please email helen.bruce@amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk as soon as possible or telephone on Monday January 4th, from 8am. Please also feel free to email or phone with any questions.

The unions are advising us to remain closed for **two weeks from Monday January 4th** however I will continue to support you with regular updates and information, as we get it.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bruce
Headteacher

Rachel McGarvey
Chair of Governors

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Information for key worker and vulnerable pupils and their parents\ carers returning to school on Tuesday 5th January.

In order to keep the safety of the community as our number one priority during these difficult times we would like to slightly re-organise drop offs and pick ups from **Tuesday January 5th** for KS1 and KS2. Nursery and Reception will remain the same.

KEY STAGE ONE (Year one and two) Families with children in both Key Stages

We are going to have the earlier drop off time for Key Stage One of 8:40am but the earlier pick up time of 3pm.

DROP OFF: 8:40am

PICK UP: 3pm

KEY STAGE TWO (Year three and four)

We are going to have the later drop off time for Key Stage Two of 8:50am and the later pick up time of 3:15pm.

DROP OFF: 8:50am

PICK UP: 3:15pm

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN BOTH KEY STAGES

Please bring all your family members to school and drop off and pick up in line with the key stage one timetable.

These times are for your safety, to minimise pinch points and families congregating. It will not work if families do not stick to their times, so please try to stick to the times set for arrival and pick ups.



We have added 2m lines to the entrance of school to remind us all to keep a social distance from one another.

Can I also ask that adults now wear face masks at drop off and pick up times, if you are able to, as another measure to minimise risks.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. I appreciate this continues to be a challenging time. Please email helen.bruce@amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk if you have any further questions at this time.

Provision for breakfast club and after school club will commence week beginning Monday January 11th.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bruce
Headteacher

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