

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020

Dear Parents,

Thanks for the support you have given the school during these challenging times. It has helped us to continue to provide for our pupils and reopen Amble First School in the safest way. I wish you all a fantastic summer and we can't wait to see all the children back in school in September. We have received new guidance from the government about how the school should open in September 2020. This information is subject to change in response to any Covid 19 updates but we will endeavour to let you know at the earliest possible chance.

**On Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>, school will re-open for all pupils.**

*"The balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school."*

*Dfe guidance for full reopening, 2.7.2020*

The guidance states that when we do reopen, attendance for all pupils will be mandatory and that the usual school rules apply, including:

- *parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct*

*Dfe guidance for full reopening, 2.7.2020*

I hope that you enjoyed coming to school to meet your new teacher and that you have had the opportunity to discuss any concerns about returning to school. We are here to help and please feel free to get in touch if you need further support.

Our first week back in school will be focused on rediscovering friendships, positive mental health and working with our puffin code (school rules) and core values. We want your children to feel reassured and happy about coming back to school.

The following information explains how we are using the government guidance to reopen on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please take the time to read it and adhere to the home school agreement.

Best wishes,

Mrs Helen Bruce

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020

## Our safety measures going forward

The government document contains further guidance on how to manage risks in September and we have organised our school day around this. We are going to operate as three key bubbles.

### What is a bubble?

A bubble is a group of staff and children that stay together for the duration of the teaching week. This bubble works and plays together away from other bubbles as part of our endeavours to minimise risks by significantly reducing the number of people that each person socialises with in school.

To enable us to manage entry times, playtimes, lunchtimes, wrap around care and teacher PPA cover we have organised our bubbles into three key stages:

Key Stage Two: Year Three and Year Four

Staff: Mrs Hunter, Miss Taylor, Mrs Durham, Mrs Graham, Mrs Forsey, Mrs Poulton

Key Stage One: Year One and Year Two

Staff: Miss Gascoigne Owens, Mrs Wilkie, Mrs Bruce, Mr Wonders, Miss Brown

Early Years: Reception, Nursery and Toucans

Staff: Mrs Donaldson, Mrs Mallaburn, Ruth, Sally, Laura

In order to manage this and minimise contact with other bubbles we are staggering opening times and using both school entrances:

Key Stage Two: Year Three and Year Four	8:40am start through the school yard gate. (The usual entrance)
Key Stage One: Year One and Year Two	8:50am start through the school yard gate. (The usual entrance)
Early Years: Reception, Nursery and Toucans	Reception: 8:50am through the main school entrance. (Where Miss Nowak lives) Nursery 8:45am through the Nursery gate (main entrance)

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020

If you have siblings who start at separate times bring them all at the youngest sibling start time through the youngest sibling entry point! So for example if you have a child in Reception and another in year three bring them both to the main entrance at 8:50am. Don't hesitate to call if you have any confusion or concerns! A member of staff will be on each gate and we will be asking you to leave your children to go into school independently to minimise pinch points and adult contact.

Collection times will be as follows

Reception: 3:05pm - Main entrance

Key Stage One: 3:05pm - School yard

Key Stage Two: 3:15pm- School yard

Again, families with siblings in separate year groups- pick up at the youngest siblings time unless you want to give the older children the extra time!

Keeping children in these three bubbles will ensure that we can maintain continuity of staff, stagger our lunch times and break times and run our wrap around care in manageable pods.

**Within these bubbles we will implement measures to continue to minimise risk as follows:**

## **Responding to symptoms of coronavirus**

YOU MUST NOT SEND YOUR CHILD\ CHILDREN TO SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD\ CHILDREN OR ANYONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If a child is awaiting collection, we will look after them in the outdoor space at the main entrance door, if possible, or in the nurture room to keep them isolated from others.

The staff member supporting the child may wear PPE if they are unable to distance from the child.

Any members of staff who have helped someone with symptoms and any pupils who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should arrange a test) or if the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive or they have been requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace.

We are required to register all positive tests with our local health protection team who will guide us through further procedures and manage confirmed cases in order to protect the community.

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020

## Classroom organisation

We have been advised that children in the same bubble are allowed to sit together facing forward in the same direction. Each child will be given their own named pencil and equipment that will not be shared. Sports equipment and limited easily cleaned resources will be shared within a bubble but not between bubbles. Staff will clean frequently touched surfaces during the school day. Bubbles will have their own toilets and sinks in the bathrooms and their own handwashing and sanitising stations in the classroom. They will be supervised by an adult if they need to leave the classroom in order to minimise contact with other bubbles. Adults in school will continue to social distance from other adults and pupils.

## Home \ school books and equipment

Reading books can continue to go home although with limited frequency. No reading records will be issued initially to reduce contact. Once pupils have finished a reading book they can bring them in to be change on **Tuesdays and Thursdays only**. Teachers will change books and on return wipe them down with a sanitising spray. Books will not be shared between bubbles.

There will be no homework books issued in September. We are working on many creative ways to complete learning at home which we will share with you in September.

Children should limit what is brought into school to essentials- reading books, packed lunch, coats. Children can still wear their PE uniform on their set PE day.

## Hand washing

Regular handwashing will become part of the school timetable for all pupils particularly on arrival, following break times, and before and after lunch.

## Catch it, bin it, kill it

We will continue to follow this approach for coughs and sneezes. We have invested in lidded bins and lots of tissues!

## Cleaning of surfaces

We will continue to clean frequently touched surfaces and shared areas and the lunch hall will be cleaned after each bubble lunch. We have allocated year groups their own toilets and sinks and these will be cleaned more regularly. Large outdoor equipment will be cleaned at the handholds every day.

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020

## Lunchtime

Hot School dinners will be served as usual from September. We will serve the children in small groups. Each bubble's lunch will be staggered in the hall to allow for cleaning between each sitting. This will also allow for playtimes to be staggered allowing pupils to remain distanced at all times from other bubbles.

## Breakfast club\ After school club

Our wraparound care will begin on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Breakfast club will begin at 8am. Please note children will be asked to sit, eat and play in their own bubble areas of the hall.

Children can access our after school club until 4:15 pm or 5:15pm. Again children will be asked to enjoy the club in their own designated bubble space of the hall.

Both clubs need to be pre-booked and paid for on our new cashless system. Registration details will be sent out for this system during the school holidays and spaces will be limited.

Further clubs will commence when we feel it is safe to do so.

## Visits and Visitors

We are planning no educational visits in the Autumn term and minimising our visitors in school. We are working closely with NUFC sport and the School Music partnership to deliver sport and music tuition. Both of these companies have received their own Covid 19 training for working in schools and the tutors coming in will be asked to follow our safety code.

## Curriculum

We have been working hard to organise an exciting curriculum ready for the autumn starting with our whole school "All about me!" week. This will be followed by our Reading Rocks week, Mad Maths week and writing week. Amongst the fun, our staff will be observing, assessing, quizzing and challenging children in these four important areas to get a sound understanding of each child's ability and their mental health. We will follow this up with a parent consultation so that we can work in partnership to develop and support the potential and future happiness of every pupil!

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020

## Home School Agreement

**By sending your child to school you are agreeing to the following:**

I will drop off and pick up my child at the correct designated times. If I am late I will wait until all other pupil groups have entered school or when a staff member indicates it is safe.

I will observe social distancing when dropping off and picking up my child.

I will support the school with the extra hygiene expectations and talk to my child about the need for hand washing, catch it, bin it, kill it, the need for PPE if a child is symptomatic, the distance adults will try to maintain from children.

I will keep my child at home if they or anyone in the household has Covid 19 symptoms. I will inform the school. I will only return my child when it is safe to do so. (Following a test or isolation as per government guidelines)

I will send my child with no extra items (toys etc..) other than their coat , water bottle, packed lunch and reading book.

I will send my child in full school uniform and the correct PE uniform on class PE days.

I will support the school if my child is sent home with Covid 19 symptoms by following the national test procedure and isolating according to the guidelines.

I understand that my child will be supported with contact by an adult if they need care.

# Amble First School

Edwin Street, Amble, Northumberland NE650EF Tel: 01665 710388

Headteacher: Helen Bruce Deputy Headteacher: Dawn Hunter

[www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website)

[facebook.com/Amble-First-School](https://facebook.com/Amble-First-School)



16.7.2020