

September 2021

Welcome back everyone!

I hope that you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and have managed to spend some quality time together with your family and friends.

I would like to start by saying how thrilled I am to be joining the Amble First team. I have already spoken with a few of you during my visit in the summer term, but I am really looking forward to meeting all of you in school on Tuesday and to getting to know you and your families over the coming weeks.

The past 18 months have been challenging, but it is our hope that this academic year will be different and that we can begin to move forward as a school community. We want to be able to invite families and visitors back into school again to share with you what we do and to provide our children with the wide range of new and exciting experiences that they deserve. The safety and well-being of our children, staff and families continue to be our priority, and as I know you will be aware, things can change rapidly so please bear with us whilst we continue to adapt to any new changes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to working with you all!

Mrs Lizzie Jackson

COVID 19 Update

As you may be aware, many of the COVID 19 restrictions that were in place before the school holidays have now been lifted. Whilst this is a positive step, we must continue to remain vigilant. We have reviewed and updated the school risk assessment in line with the latest DfE guidance (August 27th 2021) and have outlined a brief summary below.

The following list remain the 3 main recognised symptoms of Covid-19 as confirmed by Public Health England (PHE):

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

If any person in your household has one or more of these symptoms they should stay at home and arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible. If your child is taking a PCR test, please

inform the school straight away. The child should stay at home and follow stay at home guidance until you have the result of their PCR test. You can order a test online or call 119.

- Children and fully vaccinated adults who have been in contact with a positive case <u>do</u> <u>not need</u> to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms. Close contacts may be contacted by NHS Track and Trace could be advised to take a PCR test.
- If a child becomes unwell at school with COVID-19 symptoms, school will contact parents/carers and ask them to collect their child siblings do not need to be collected. Staff will explain what to do when a parent/carer arrives at the school. Any child sent home with symptoms must stay at home and will be advised to book a PCR test straight away.

Please inform school immediately if your child tests positive for COVID19.

- In school, we will continue to promote good hygiene by ensuring regular handwashing and the use of hand sanitiser. Classrooms and other areas of school will continue to be regularly cleaned and will be well-ventilated.
- Adults are no longer required to wear face coverings whilst on site or bringing children to and from school. However, we respect the choice of individuals to do so should they wish. We will continue with the staggered start times (see below) and will review this as the term progresses.
- Should levels of infection start to rise, some previous measures may be reintroduced. We will inform you promptly of any changes.

School Day

School opening and hometimes will remain staggered for the beginning of term. Toucans 12:30pm - 3:30pm Nursery and Reception 8.45am - 3.00pm Key Stage 1 8.40am - 3.00pm Key Stage 2 8.50am - 3.10pm

Toucans, Nursery and Reception will be greeted and dismissed at the main entrance. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will be greeted and dismissed at the entrance to the playground.

Uniform and PE kits

We can't wait to see our children return to school looking smart and ready to learn. Please can I remind children that no jewellery is to be worn in school for safety reasons. Children are permitted to wear a watch if they choose to do so and they can wear a single pair of stud earrings. These must be removed for PE lessons. If children are unable to remove their own earrings, please ensure that they are not worn on PE days.

Children will continue to come to school on PE days wearing their PE kit. Please ensure that children are appropriately dressed for the weather, as sessions will take place outdoors whenever possible.

Class teachers will inform you which day your child will need to wear their PE kit.

No nuts in school - reminder

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that we are a 'nut free' school and as such please do not send any food into school that contains nuts. This includes Nutella and Peanut Butter in packed lunches. We have some members of our school community who have a serious allergy and for whom contact with nuts could result in very serious complications.

Wraparound care

Breakfast Club will run from 8am Monday to Friday, term time only. The cost of each session is £2.50.

After school club will run Monday to Thursday, term time only. The cost of each session is: £4.00 until 4.15pm £6.00 until 5.00pm.

Places for both are limited to 15 per day and need to be pre-booked via eduspot.co.uk. Please contact the office if you need new login details or a password reset.

<u>Please note: places need to be booked by Friday for the following week.</u> (Or by Monday for the week beginning 6th Sept).

Communication

Please can you ensure that school holds the most up to date contact information for your child(ren). If you have moved house, changed phone number or email address over the holidays, please inform the office as soon as possible. It is important that we are able to get in contact quickly with parents/carers should the need arise.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

Best wishes

The Amble First Team