

Dream Believe Shine



Ambleside Academy

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Principal: Ms J Bromley

26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week. Children and staff who are working on site have enjoyed having lighter mornings to start each day, and the sun on their backs at playtime and lunchtimes. Home learners in Year 2 have been practising their 'wr' spellings and remembering their question marks; and in Year 4 they have been learning that the same area can be represented in different shape formations.

The Prime Minister's announcement gave confirmation that schools are directed to reopen.

So, on Monday March 8th, we look forward to welcoming back all of our pupils!

Staff are busily preparing, and we are all looking forward to having our building full of children and learning once again. We want to do whatever we can to make this a successful return for your children, so please don't hesitate to contact me, or any other member of staff if you have any concerns, or have anything specific which you'd like us to be mindful of, which is related to your child's return to class.

We are compiling a FAQs document which I will send out to you on Monday. This will hopefully answer any questions you may have. The full Risk Assessment for re-opening will be available on our website and on the Raleigh Learning Trust's website as usual.

The safety measures which we put in place in the Autumn Term will remain and be familiar to you, along with some additional measures added to keep our community safe. In this letter, I will simply summarise some key points, to help you prepare:

- All children, all classes return on Monday 8th March
- All children return to their class bubble (as Autumn Term)
- Routines remain as Autumn Term - for restricted movement around school, one way system, and avoiding children from different Bubbles crossing
- EYFS only at Main gates
- KS 1 and KS 2 use Hilcot Drive and Minver Crescent gates
- Friday afternoon closure for teachers' PPA and deep cleaning –the only children in school will be critical worker children – all other children will be provided home learning activities
- Only one person may enter the site to accompany children for drop-off and pick-up
- Face coverings must be worn by all adults on the playground. Parents and carers may not enter the school site without a face covering

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- Additional hand washing facilities (outdoor sinks) installed for pupils to wash hands prior to entry to school
- Playground Zones for Bubbles
- Lunches (including hot dinners) eaten in classrooms so children stay as a Bubble
- Enhanced cleaning continues - including anti-viral fogging of all rooms daily
- Breakfast club opens at 7:45am. £2 a day, book and pay via Parent Pay
- No after school clubs until after Easter (when they can be outside)
- No school trips
- Essential visitors only on site
- School office open 3:30 till 4:00pm only
- Lateral flow (LFD) home testing kits for staff twice weekly – not for pupils
- Face coverings for staff who move around school/between bubbles (SLT, site, MDS, pastoral), but voluntary for everyone else – apart from handover time when face coverings will be worn by all
- Positive cases of Covid 19 will result in closure of bubble and direction to isolate for 10 days. Home learning will be provided the next day
- Please do not send children to school if they are poorly
- You will be phoned to take your child home if they display any symptoms of Covid 19 or seem unwell

We recognise that some children may be apprehensive about returning, while also being excited about seeing their friends. I'm sure that you may also have mixed feelings about schools reopening before most of us have been vaccinated. I can only emphasise that as a staff, we will continue to do what we can to keep our community healthy and safe; and that we want every one of our pupils to come to school on March 8th to resume their education in the way which we all know best.

Have a good weekend!

Kind regards,

Ms Bromley