

Dream Believe Shine



Ambleside Academy

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Principal: Ms J Bromley

New Term Information

Dear Parent/ Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming you back on Thursday 2nd September, 2021.

I hope you have enjoyed your August time together and are now ready for what promises to be a busy term.

While many Covid regulations have been relaxed, the risk to the health of our community remains, so there are precautions which will remain in place until further notice, and some changes which we made last year which will now become routine:

Symptoms:

Children, staff and visitors may not be in school if they have symptoms

- a new, continuous cough
- **or** a high temperature
- **or** has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child has symptoms, a parent/carer must arrange for a PCR test for them and report the result to us at the school. In the event that they undertake an LFD test and the test result is negative, this does not allow them to return to school earlier than the 10-day self-isolation period allows. Once there are no symptoms, a negative PCR test allows a return to school.

While we recognise there can be some frustration regarding this, we request your co-operation in collecting children from school if we call you and report symptoms as we do not do this lightly, but to maintain a healthy school community. A child with symptoms will be isolated in our designated quarantine room until they are collected.

Nottingham City Public Health advise us to test regularly. Our staff test twice weekly.

Approximately 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms. It is important to take regular twice-weekly rapid lateral flow tests to stop the spread of infection. You can drop in and get a free rapid test, or collect a box of tests to take at home, at any of the local asymptomatic testing centres. Further information on the centres, including opening times, is available at: [Get a COVID-19 Test - Nottingham City Council](#).

Tests can also be accessed from many workplaces and pharmacies. To find a pharmacy near you that offers this service, go to: [Find where to get rapid lateral flow tests - NHS \(testand-trace.nhs.uk\)](#). If you are unable to access tests through these routes, you can order a pack of 7 tests online at: [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

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(No) bubbles and contact:

We are no longer working in Bubbles. Classes of children and staff are likely to mix within their year group, but will spend little time mixing with children in other year groups. Class groups will continue to play in their Zones when outside, as this has had a positive impact on relationships and behaviour. Lunches will continue to be eaten in classrooms for children in KS2.

Assemblies will continue to be held remotely and children will only gather in the Hall as a year group to eat (if they are in YR, Y1 or Y2) or for presentations/ certain lessons eg music. Larger group presentations e.g. if parents are invited, would take place outdoors, weather permitting.

The Bubble routines will be re-instated in the event of a Coronavirus outbreak (multiple cases) in school. You will be informed if this happens.

A positive case confirmed within a class will not automatically result in class closure. We will work closely with NHS Track and Trace to identify 'close contacts', who would be directed to isolate, if necessary. Our key aim is to keep classes open, and keep our staff healthy and well as they are the best people to be teaching and caring for your children.

Drop off and pick-up arrangements:

These will continue as last year. Reception and Nursery children will be dropped off and picked up at the Main Entrance and will walk to class as a group, accompanied by staff. Please be on time.

Reception classes: 8:30-8:40am arrival, pick up 2:50pm-3:00pm

As reception and nursery parents are unable to see the classes, this half term, on named days, parents will be invited to attend in-class sessions/workshops, to support pupil learning. Please keep an eye out for invites.

Reception children have allocated half days to start the term and establish routines. Please contact Ms Pellington, Reception leader, or the class teacher if you are unsure about timings for your child.

Nursery sessions are 8:30-11:30am, or 12:30-3:30pm, with all handovers at the Main Gates.

KS1 and KS2 pupils and parents to use Hilcot Drive and Minver Crescent gates. There is no 'through route' to/from the Main Gates to the school playground. We respectfully ask that you do not gather in adult groups on the playground, and that minimise the amount of time you spend on site.

KS1 and KS2 classes and Nest: 8:45-9:00am arrival, pick up 3:00-3:15pm

Minver and Hilcot gates open at 8:40am and 2:55pm

Key Stage 1 and Nest pupils should be picked up and dropped off from classroom doors by an adult as usual.

Key Stage 2 pupils can be picked up and dropped off from classroom doors by an adult, or may walk to school unaccompanied, by prior arrangement.

Please let us know in advance, if there are any changes to usual arrangements. If we are unsure, we will always check, so those collecting will need to be patient with us.

Kind regards,

Ms Bromley