



Ampertaine Primary School

Friday 8th January 2021 Latest Information



Dear Parents,

Thank you for your cooperation and participation in our first week of Remote Learning. We understand this is a change from the norm and are thankful that our pupils had been partaking in this process weekly since September.

As you may be aware the Educational Minister has decided the following:

Effective from : Thursday 7th January

- All mainstream education providers, including pre-school education settings, primary and post primary schools are required to provide remote learning at home to their pupils rather than face to face teaching in school, **until the half term break in the middle of February.**

As it now stands our pupils will now return to school on Monday 22nd February. Remote Learning will continue through Seesaw and Google Classroom which are our chosen remote learning platforms and are well established at this stage.

- It is important that all pupils make an effort to engage with the learning materials that are being provided. Teachers will endeavour to ensure that the workload is manageable as we are aware that home circumstances differ significantly.

Collection of School Resources

- Materials will be available for parents to collect from school on Monday 11th January. The materials are pupil specific and will range in provision according to their class and educational level.
- We will be operating a "Drive through" style collection. We ask you to follow the current drop off/collection system as indicated in our car park.
- Similar to our current system in the interest safety would we ask for everyone to stay in their vehicles. Staff will be passing resources through your car window.
- Time table for collection

Time	Number of children per family at school
11am – 11:15am	3 or more
11:15am – 11:45am	2 pupils
11:45 – 12:30pm	1 pupil

Seesaw and Google Classroom

- Materials will be available from **9pm the evening before**, giving time to print and be ready for the activities in the morning if you wish to do so.
- Parents, please feel free to fit the activities into your own schedule and not feel pressured to complete the activities on the days they are posted. This should help to accommodate parents who are key workers and require some flexibility to balance the various demands of life and work. Generally, however, we would encourage the children, as far as possible, to do some work every day.
- Remember your teachers are available online every day during normal teaching hours.
- We reserve the use of Seesaw and Google Classroom solely as learning and teaching platforms. If you wish to get in contact with any queries or concerns about their work, we would ask that you continue to use the school info account.
info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk. Please remember to add the Name of the children and Class in the subject area. This will ensure the most efficient and effective communication between home and school in these challenging times.

Provision for children of Key Workers

- While it is crucial that key workers are able to attend work, if there is a parent / guardian / elder sibling at home or other provision available to key workers, then you must use that provision. This is essential to avoid schools becoming overwhelmed and having to close completely on safety grounds. THE SAFEST PLACE FOR CHILDREN IS IN THEIR OWN HOME.
- In order to avoid mass lock-downs we ask anyone sending their children to school to be particularly vigilant. If a child shows any symptoms he / she should remain at home.
- Children will have their temperatures taken on arrival and will not be allowed entry should they be presenting with a high temperature.
- **Children should bring a packed lunch.**
- **Children should attend wearing their school uniform.**
- **If learning activities are paper based, these should be printed and brought to school.**
- Please use info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk if your circumstances change including the following details:
 - parents names;
 - a contact telephone number and email address;
 - children's names, classes and teachers;
 - parents' occupation that entitles you to key-worker provision; and
 - which days you need your child to attend.

Christmas Fun



Victoria has enjoyed her Christmas & New Year break and got to do horse riding and caring for horses which she thoroughly enjoyed. The white horse is Christie and the Shetland is Buttons. She is missing seeing her friends but catches up with them on the mobile phone she got for Christmas.

Useful links for home learning

- Below I have included again the list of useful links for home learning during this time. The links range in subjects and offer an alternative avenue to gain more activities for those at home. Some of the links require a sign up process to access the free material. We hope you find the links helpful and beneficial.

And finally...

Thank you for the messages of support we have received this week through our school email and through our learning platforms. This has meant a lot to us as a staff as do our best to help and assist remotely. It has been lovely to hear from the children and all that they have been up to and all that they hope to do while we have this lovely dry, but cold weather.

Please can we remind you to send in any pictures or news which you may have for us and would like to share with our school community. info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk.

The situation we all find ourselves in is far from ideal. We would ask for your patience and understanding as try to work together to minimise the impact on your child. There may be teething problems in some cases but we will get through this together.

As and when we receive updated advice from the Department of Education, we will communicate this with you all.

At this time, with the new variant of Covid-19 spreading rapidly and the alarming rises in cases and all that comes with it, we would urge you to stay at home as much as you possibly can to protect you, your family and those within your community.

Keep persevering, keep safe and keep washing those hands.

From all at Ampertaine

Useful Links For Home Learning

[Audible](#) Amazon audio books for kids FOR FREE

[BBC Bitesize](#) Learning clips and tutorials on a wide range of topics for children in P1-P7

[Blockly](#) Fun and free computer programming games

[CBeebies Radio](#) Listening activities for younger children

[Collins Books - FREE ACCESS TO BOOKS FOR P1 - P3 PUPILS](#) Click on the link and then click teacher. Username is parents@harpercollins.co.uk and password is Parents20!

[Crash Course Kids](#) Science videos on a range of topics

[Crickweb](#) Free online educational resources and games in all subjects for all ages.

[DK Find Out!](#) Great resource for a wide range of information in all areas of the curriculum

[Duolingo](#) Sign up and learn a language for free!

[Educational videos](#) Over 4300 videos linked to science, music, art and much more!

[Kids Learning Tube](#) Songs and videos which are great for learning!

[Khan Academy](#) Sign up to access practical exercises and instructional videos in all subjects

[Libraries NI](#) You can use Libraries NI to download free e-books for AR and to read to younger children?

[Literacy Shed](#) Video stimuli for writing

[Literactive](#) Literacy games, activities and ebooks for P1-P3 children

[Maths Chase](#) A fast moving game to help consolidate mathematical skills, eg-tables

[Minecraft](#) Free Minecraft education. Lots of coding, remote learning and activities available.

[myON](#) Access to online books which are very useful for children working on AR

Useful Links For Home Learning

[National Geographic - Kids](#) Activities and quizzes for all children

[Nature Detectives](#) Fun nature activities for the garden!

[Oxford Owl](#) Access to a range of free ebooks

[Primary Resources](#) A wide range of PowerPoints and worksheets for all areas of the curriculum and all ages

[Primary Homework Help](#) Lots of Literacy and Numeracy activities but also great for topic work and World Around Us!

[Red Ted Art](#) Art and craft activities

[Sesame Street](#) Games, videos and art activities for younger pupils

[Starfall](#) Literacy and Numeracy activities for P1-P5 pupils

[The Imagination Tree](#) Creative art activities for younger children

[The Maths Factor](#) Free access to Carol Vorderman's Maths tuition website

[The School Run](#) Resources and tutorials for a range of curricular areas. Free 14 day trial and then £42 for six months

[Topmarks](#) Free educational games and resources for all subjects and all ages

[Twinkl](#) Twinkl are offering a month of free access to parents in the event of school closures. It is packed with learning resources. You need the code UKTWINKLHELPS to access the offer.

[World Geography](#) Geography games