

Amstelveen, 8 September, 2020

Dear parent / carer,

The schools have been up and running for a few weeks now and our employees are working hard to ensure that education and all related activities run smoothly. This is going well.

Unfortunately, as a result of Covid-19, the pressure on education is significant and that this will not change in the short term. The Cabinet currently sees no reason to relax the existing measures. This means that we will also continue to strictly follow the "protocol for primary education"¹. This requires alertness from us as an educational institution, but also from you as a parent / carer.

In addition to the protocol, we also use agreements that are derived from the protocol at the schools. I would like to bring this to your attention again.

With one or more of the following complaints, the children are not allowed to go to school:

- Cold complaints such as colds in the nose, sneezing, sore throat;
- Cough;
- Blocked nose;
- High temperature or fever;
- Sudden loss of smell and / or taste;

Your child is also not allowed to go to school in the following situations:

- If someone from the same household has tested positive for the coronavirus;
- If someone from the same household has a fever and / or shortness of breath in addition to a cold, cough or sudden loss of smell and / or taste. Then everyone in the household must stay at home;

The school is not accessible:

- Parents are not welcome in the school or on the playground²;
- No external parties are allowed to enter the school unless the principal has given explicit permission;
- Everyone who enters the school as an external party must adhere to the applicable agreements.

¹ [po.lesopafstand.nl](https://www.lesopafstand.nl)

² This depends on the situation at school

I realize that this is a significant task. The school will be alert together with you and will immediately warn you if your child has a fever or other symptoms. It is then important that you pick up your child from school as soon as possible.

It is important that we keep a close eye on the children, but also take care of our staff. The same rules apply to them too!

Unfortunately, some of our staff members have already had to be tested and as a result cannot be in the classroom currently. The great shortage of teachers in Amsterdam means that we are unable to organize immediate replacements. Therefore, in the coming period parents/carers must be aware that classes may be temporarily cancelled and the students asked to stay at home. As long as the speed of testing does not increase and / or the teaching staff is not given priority during testing, this may take up to a few days.

Fortunately, the municipality of Amsterdam, led by Alderman Moorman, is doing its utmost to give primary school teachers priority in testing. This does not alter the fact that some classroom closures are inevitable during this period. Schools will try to provide work for children in these situations, and perhaps some form of distance learning. This will differ for each school. You will be informed about this at the time.

Education is pre-eminently a place where involvement and proximity of parents / carers is important. Unfortunately, for the moment this will not be possible. I am again counting on your understanding and cooperation. As long as the virus is among us, we depend even more than usual on each other and on cooperation.

I can imagine that many questions remain. Information meetings (digital) will be organized in collaboration with the municipality of Amsterdam and the GGD where you can go with questions. The director of the school is also always ready to speak to you in an appropriate manner. Of course, you can also contact the GGD ³ if you have specific questions.

I wish you good health.

Sincerely,

Jeroen Knigge
Director Stichting KBA Nw West

³ www.ggd.amsterdam.nl