

27th August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Return to school on Friday 3rd September

I hope that you have had a safe and fantastic holiday. We can't wait to welcome the children back for the new year on Friday 3rd September. Here is some updated information about uniform and drop off and pick up. Separate letters have been sent about COVID-19 and Lunchtimes.

What time will the school day be?	All pupils in Reception, Year 1, 2,3,4,5 and 6 must be in their classroom ready to learn by 8.55am- they can enter the classroom from 8.45am. The school day will finish for all pupils at 3.15pm. We are returning to the full school day for all pupils 8.55am to 3.15pm. Nursery session times are allocated to you AM, PM or all day. The ARP, Nursery and Reception have different settling in times for the first two weeks.
Must my child wear school uniform?	Yes we expect full smart school uniform – please see the policy here: https://www.westactonprimaryschool.org/parents/uniform You may be contacted if your child is not wearing correct school uniform. Please let us know if you have any difficulties regarding school uniform.
Can my child wear their PE kit to school on their PE day? Monday – Birch Tuesday - Year 5 Wednesday – Year 2 and Year 3 Thursday - Year 1 and Year 4 Friday – Reception and Year 6	We will continue to allow pupils to wear their PE Kit to school on their PE day for Autumn 1 and then review it before half term. This was a very popular, and practical measure we took for COVID-19 last year. However, many children do not wear the correct school PE kit – and dressed inappropriately. Children must wear the correct PE Kit – please see here: https://www.westactonprimaryschool.org/parents/uniform If children are not wearing the correct PE kit reminders will be given and you may be contacted. If PE kit does not improve then we will all have to return to full school uniform after October half term.
How will children enter school to start the day? No parent/carer, including ARP parents, should enter the school building before school.	We will continue the system that we had last year for COVID-19. This system worked very well and was very positive for the pupils. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 should walk down the left land path (as you enter from Noel Road) without their parent/carer. This year, if younger siblings are confident to go here, without parent/carers, they too can go this way. ARP pupils who are able to walk through independently should also go this way. Please do not leave your child here alone – wait until you have seen a member of the school staff – we are usually there by 8.35am.

	<p>Years 1 and 2 should line up, with parents/carers in the middle line against the orange bollards. Once at the playground gate the child will go through alone.</p> <p>Reception, Nursery and ARP children, with parents/carers should enter on the right hand path (as you enter from Noel Road). Nursery and Reception will go into the Victoria Hall and ARP parents can go up to the playground gate.</p>
<p>Do we still have to queue at home time? Yes. Where do we queue?</p>	<p>Prior to COVID-19 In March 2020, parents/carers would gather in a large group at the playground gates – it was unsafe and unpleasant. Queuing is safer and creates a more positive and courteous environment.</p> <p>Before 3.15pm parents/carers, Year 1, 2 3, 4, 5 and 6 should wait in the middle line against the orange bollards. However, to stop the line blocking up along Noel Road, we will ask you to make two lines, lining side by side where possible. Staff will direct you do this and I'm sure you will quickly get used to it. No parents/carers from any year groups can go ahead – all year groups now finish at 3.15pm. Please do not push past, please be patient whilst we all get used to this way.</p> <p>Before 3.15 pm Reception, Nursery and ARP children, parents/carers should queue on the right hand path (as you enter from Noel Road).</p> <p>You can then go to your child's classroom (ARP, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and Year 3) or waiting area on the games court (Year 4, 5, 6).</p> <p>Please be prompt to collect your child. Collect younger siblings first. When possible there should only be one adult to collect the children. Everyone should leave via the field or the middle right outward pathway.</p>
<p>Do parents/carers have to wear a mask?</p>	<p>If you are closer than 1 metre guidance says you should wear a mask – so if you are wanting to talk to a staff member or enter the office please wear a mask. At home time when you have to wait longer near more children, it is advisable to wear a mask.</p> <p>Rules on mask wearing could change due to different circumstances and we will keep you updated. Please tell us if you are exempt.</p>

Please stay safe and be cautious, in this last week of the holiday, I look forward to seeing you, and most importantly your children next Friday!

Yours faithfully,

Karen Kondo
Headteacher