Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Changes to school uniform and revision of values, vision and logo

Thank you so much to everyone – governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers who gave feedback about proposed uniform changes at the end of last half term. It was fantastic to have so many people share their opinions.

After careful consideration, we would like to inform you of the decided changes to the uniform: change from yellow polo shirt to white button shirts, new logo V neck sweatshirt and an optional tie. There is also a simple Nursery uniform and simplified PE Kit. Please see the attached list.

We will be introducing the changes to the uniform with effect from September 2019, to be phased in over a two year period. By September 2021 the old school uniform will no longer be accepted. The new sweatshirt and tie will be available from the uniform supplier in July – we will inform you when you can start buying it.

Rationale for Uniform changes

The future is exciting for West Acton Primary: full of opportunities. However there are also challenges – financial cuts, falling pupil numbers and teacher recruitment. We are working hard to raise the achievements and profile of our school and make it a school of choice for families: this year saw 20% more families select West Acton as their first choice for Reception compared to last year.

The Education Endowment Fund (EEF) research on school uniform states “there is no robust evidence that introducing a school uniform will, by itself, improve academic performance, behaviour, or attendance”. However, studies have shown that a change in uniform is one part of a range of factors and initiatives that can contribute to school improvement – West Acton is committed to continuous improvement.

As you may recall, I also asked you about our school values and vision. We are refining these to reflect our current school so that we are able to embed them. Using the feedback from parents/carers and other stakeholders we will be having a revised vision statement, updated values and new school logo which has been designed for West Acton.

Finally we want to make the uniform more accessible – cheaper and easier to buy so these changes reflect that and we hope that this will allow higher standards of uniform to be adhered to. I have also created a Uniform Policy to clarify expectations. I would encourage you to, as always, donate old, outgrown school uniform to charities or to the PTA. I will provide information of recycling opportunities next term.

Thank you for your continued support and feedback.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Kondo
Headteacher