

3rd June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Years 1 and 6 and Reception,

Re: Return to school

We are delighted to be able to welcome back our pupils in Year 1, Year 6 and Reception.

Every school is bringing pupils back in a different way. At West Acton, we have chosen a model that we believe is fair and minimises risks as much as possible for pupils, families and staff and is hopefully sustainable for the rest of the summer term.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8/6/2020		Reception	Year 1	Year 6	
15/6/2020	Reception	Reception	Year 1	Year 1 Year 6	Year 6
22/6/2020	Reception	Reception	Year 1	Year 1 Year 6	Year 6
29/6/2020	Reception	Reception	Year 1	Year 1 Year 6	Year 6
6/7/2020	Reception	Reception	Year 1	Year 1 Year 6	Year 6
13/7/2020		Reception	Year 1	Year 6	

The time is a usual school day of 8.45am to 3.15pm – please be prompt and follow the directions and instructions given to you when you arrive. In these difficult times, it may be necessary to change this plan for the whole school, a year group, a class or even one bubble. Please ensure that you keep up to date with our messages.

We can't wait to see you all next week! I have prepared answers to as many questions as I could think of overleaf but I am sure more queries will come up as we get started. We will share a video to explain the new way of operation to the children in a friendlier manner. I appreciate your patience, understanding and continued support at this challenging time.

Yours faithfully,
Karen Kondo
Headteacher

Questions and Answers – returners Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

<p>What if my child feels a bit ill in the morning? I'm sure they will be fine later.</p>	<p>You must not send your child in if they are at all poorly. As a matter of course, we ask you to check with them verbally in the morning how they are feeling. You know your child best. This is so important. You will not be penalised for attendance. We may check your child's temperature during the day.</p>
<p>What if my child becomes ill during the day?</p>	<p>If your child became ill in school they would be isolated immediately and would be supported by a member of bubble staff (who may or may not need to wear full PPE, dependent on symptoms and comfort level needed). You will need to collect as quickly as you can as isolation and PPE are not pleasant and we do not want to expose any child to those circumstances for any length of time. Your child and family members may need to be tested before they can return to school depending on the symptoms and illness.</p>
<p>What if my child has new symptoms of COVID-19? What if someone else in our house has COVID-19?</p>	<p>If your child or a member of your family have symptoms of COVID- 19, a new persistent cough or a temperature (please see Public Health England Guidance on this) then you must all self-isolate for 14 days. Please inform school, so that we can inform others and tests can be ordered. We are being equally stringent with all staff members. Tests can be ordered through Public Health England/NHS.</p>
<p>What if a child or member of staff is confirmed to have COVID-19?</p>	<p>If we have a confirmed COVID -19 case in school, then that bubble would need to be closed and staff and all children (and their respective families) would need to self- isolate for 14 days, tested. The bubble area would be deep cleaned. All other bubbles would remain open, but not to siblings of a child from the closed bubble.</p>
<p>Can I pop into the school office? No.</p>	<p>All communication to be via email or by telephone. Please request calls or meetings via email or telephone. Face to face meetings may not always be possible.</p>
<p>Can I take my child to their classroom? No. And at home time?</p>	<p>Parents/carers are to wave goodbye from the gate and not to enter into the playground. No parents/carers are to come into school or to attempt to hand anything over to staff. Children will be brought to the gate at home time.</p>
<p>What about lunch – what will they eat? Packed lunch only in their bubble classroom.</p>	<p>Packed lunches from home to be in a bag that can be thrown away or a labelled, washable lunchbox. This will ensure that they can be washed or anti- bacterial wiped off each night. You can also order from school as usual but there will not be hot food available. FSM pupils will receive a packed lunch.</p>

Does my child need a water bottle? Yes.	Water bottles to be provided from home and taken home each night to be washed.
Can my child bring a backpack? No.	No backpacks or bulky items- we do not have the space to store and these can be unhygienic and difficult to clean.
Does my child need their book bag? No.	No book bags needed. We will not be sending reading books home.
Should my child wear school uniform? No.	Children are to wear own clothes and these to be changed regularly as possible (we appreciate washing facilities are not easy for all families). Trainers/comfortable shoes to be worn.
Does my child need PE kit and PE bag? No.	No PE kits- we will exercise in our non-uniform clothes and trainers.
Can my child bring their own toys, games or balls in? No.	Toys or extra items should not be brought into school.
Should adults socially distance on school property? Yes.	Two metre social distancing must be maintained by all adults at all times. Parents/carers will wait outside the main front gate, observing social distancing and must keep their children with them at all times. Please be patient and respectful.
Will my child be taught by their teacher and be with his/her friends?	Classes will form 'bubbles' and in order to do this staff will be used from across the year group. The work will be planned and coordinated by the Year group leaders for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 so it will be appropriate and accessible for the children. We cannot make take friendship requests for groupings at a time like this. Please respect the groupings made by the school but if your child has a particular need that we don't already know about please let us know.
Can I visit the school during the day? No. Will other people visit the school during the day?	Visitors to school will only be when needed and social distancing will be closely observed and monitored e.g. therapists, social workers, plumbers and electricians.
Will there be breakfast club, Sports day, Aktiva and after school clubs?	No, sadly we cannot operate those at this time.

My child has music lessons – will they continue?	Should you wish to continue, these are currently online. Please email the office for details.
Will my child come to school 5 days a week? No.	In order to minimise risk and for this to be as safe and comfortable as possible your child will not be attending every day. Having multiple year groups on site makes maintaining social distancing very difficult, limits spaces and resources. Whilst the time in school will be less than usual, this way we will be able to maintain the quality of our provision for all pupils.
Can I attend some days and not others?	It is better for your child, other children and the whole school if you attend on the allocated days regularly. Staff are also anxious, will have child care to arrange and children/families at home t of their own to care for so they will be looking forward to having your child in class as planned. Whilst non-attendance won't be penalised, you may be asked about absence if we feel there could be a risk to the 'bubble'.
My child has been attending the keyworker/EHCP provision and is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6. Where will they go?	This will be looked at case by case with Miss Kondo, who will contact parents of children who this applies to.
Will the behaviour policy be more relaxed? No.	We will still expect pupils to follow our school rules and especially show examples of our school values. You may be asked to collect your child if their behaviour is not acceptable or puts others at risk such as spitting. During this time we will not have the capacity to be as accommodating as usual and ask for your support on this matter
Do I have to send my child to school?	This is a very personal choice and quite emotive issue for some people. We want as many children to come back possible but if you are able to and decide to keep your child at home for the rest of the term, that is ok too.
What will my child do at school all day?	We feel the children will feel more safe and confident in a structured day with familiar activities such as maths and English but also activities to support their mental and physical wellbeing, be creative, transition them back to class and keep safe at this time.
Should my child still do online learning even if they come to school?	When possible your child should continue with online learning for the days that they are not in school.
Can my child wear a mask?	Children can wear masks on their journey to and from school but we ask that the parent/carer removes the mask at the gate and take it away. It is hard for children to maintain the sterileness of a mask once in a class.
Will staff wear masks?	Staff may choose to wear a mask but will always uncover their mouths when talking to children.

What if my child has medical needs or has an accident/toileting accident in school?	We will be following our usual first aid policies but staff should take the additional precaution of wearing PPE. We may also be calling for you to come in and support or take your child home in certain situations.
How should I travel to school?	You are encouraged to walk, or drive wherever possible. If you use public transport please follow TFL guidelines.
Why are there lines on the school paths?	To help maintain social distancing. Please wait patiently.
How many people can drop off and collect children?	Only one adult per child should join the queue please. We understand that you may have to bring siblings with you at this time.
Can my other children attend?	Only children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 can attend.
Shall we bring back my child's library and reading books?	Yes please do return them. We will not be able to send any books home this term.
Will the children be social distancing?	Social distancing will be explained to the children and practised as much as possible. Please also talk to them about this at home.
YEAR 6 ONLY - phones - production - PGL - farewell - walking to and from school - high school transition	Year 6 should take their phone to their classroom, not the office where it will be kept by the teacher. We will be celebrating Year 6 leaving primary school in a different way from usual. Sadly, PGL will have to be cancelled – we will send a separate letter with details of how to get your refund later this week. Year 6 pupils can walk to and from school, if they usually have permission. However, if they were ill during the school day, an adult who is registered as a contact would have to come and collect them from school. We have already been in contact with high schools regarding transition for our Year 6 pupils.

In the first instance, we will be following our regular school policies and Government guidelines but may talk to or challenge anyone who puts the safety of others at risk.

**We thank you for following our school values of
Courage, Consideration and Collaboration at this time.**