

“It takes a whole community, to bring up a child”



Ark Boulton Academy



19th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

Students have now attended seven weeks of term, we are supporting them with **compassion** after Covid and the disruption that this caused with **consistent routines, high expectations** and opportunities to socialise with each other again. We look forward to continuing with assessments to show strong **academic progress** in the next term.

As winter term approaches and the days get darker, please see our ‘Getting Home Safe’ guidance below and information from West Midlands Police on the next page.

Go straight home!

1. **Know the route home that your child takes every day.**
2. **Children should not be walking home alone, or talking to anyone they don't know**
3. **Children should be going straight home, and be expected home at a reasonable time each day.**
4. **Children should not be wearing hoodies, clothing with logos or carrying valuables as this puts them at risk of crime.**
5. **Should your child need to stay behind at school, a text message will be sent to your phone. Make sure that school has your up-to-date contact details.**

Dangerous habits:

Ark Boulton pupils pride themselves on their uniform and being respectful to residents in the area. Make sure that your child knows what dangerous behaviour looks like and that someone could get injured:

- using their mobile phone whilst crossing the road
- crossing the road between two parked cars
- running across the road when they have seen a car coming
- distracting the driver of a vehicle when travelling as a passenger
- talking in a group and not concentrating on the road when crossing
- pushing people into the road

Get home safe!

Please tell your children to follow these rules for walking to school safely.

- **Stop at the kerb or edge of the street.**
- **Look left, right, left and behind you and in front of you for traffic.**
- **Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing.**
- **Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing.**
- **Walk, don't run across the street.**

Mrs Assi

Assistant Principal Character Education, Personal Welfare and Development
Lower School

Herminster K Channa OBE JP – Executive Principal

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HAPPY, SAFE HALLOWEEN/BONFIRE NIGHT – REMINDER FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

With the darker nights fast approaching, it is important that students are reminded what we, as a school community, expect of them in terms of behaviour.

Parents/carers and students should already be aware that as part of our safeguarding arrangements, the school has a two-way information sharing agreement in place with West Midlands Police, and we are active members of the local Police & Schools Panel. This joint-approach helps us to intervene early to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour involving our students, and provide support and up-to-date safety messages.

In partnership with the police, we would also like to remind our students about the following:-

- **Anti-social behaviour:** Halloween can be a scary time for people who don't like surprises or callers at their door. Think about how your actions and behaviour affect others; elderly and vulnerable people may be frightened by 'trick or treat' so look out for signs in windows that people do not want callers at their door.
- **Personal Safety:**
 - Be aware of your surroundings, take care of friends and family members and keep valuables such as phones out of public view whenever possible.
 - Don't drink alcohol, take illegal drugs or unknown substances; they can have a big impact on your health and safety, behaviour and your ability to do well at school and enjoy other interests and activities. They can also be addictive and have unpredictable side effects, including sudden death!
 - West Midlands Fire Service recommends that you go to an organised display; it's the smart way to stay safe. You'll see a lot more fireworks and it's a lot cheaper. Information about firework safety is available at www.saferfireworks.com
- **Weapons in public places:** carrying a knife will get you a criminal record which can have life-long effects on travel and job prospects. Those who carry knives are also much more likely to be injured by them.
- **Off-road bikes:** These can only be ridden on private land with the landowner's permission. Don't risk your life and future prospects by illegally riding these on the road.
- **Remember the company you keep:** if your friend breaks the law, you may also be held responsible for that crime – even if you weren't the one directly responsible.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Richards
Head of School

Mat Shaer

Stephen Graham
Chief Superintendent - West NPU

Herminder K Channa OBE JP – Executive Principal

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