

Ventana Vista Elementary School FAQs

Where do I take my child on the first day of school?

You have choices in where to take your child on the first day of school. It will depend on the age and comfort level of your child.

1. You may drop your child off in the drop off lane in the lot as early as **7:40 am**. Staff in the front will make sure he/she gets to the correct classroom.
2. Send them on the bus and avoid the parking lot. We will get them to the correct classroom if they need help.
3. If you live close to the school, you may walk with your child to the front of campus.

In years past, parents were able to park and walk their child directly to the classroom door and say goodbye at the door. This year, due to COVID-19 protocols, parents and visitors are not allowed on campus.

How does morning arrival work?

- Drop-off begins at 7:40 am daily. Cars line up to pull through the round-about to drop students off. The gate to the roundabout drop-off closes at 8:00 am.
- **Before 7:53 am** students have the option of getting breakfast in front of the MPR (students will need to enter through the school's front gate) or going to the upper playground for morning recess before school (students enter from the sidewalk by the upper field).
- **After 7:53 am**, students will head directly to their classroom.
- If a student arrives after 8:00 am, they will need to enter school through the front office.
- Buses drop children off by the parking lot to the North of the school. If you are able to send your child on the bus to avoid the parking lot, please do so.

Can I go to the classroom with my child?

No. Since visitors are not allowed on campus currently, you may not walk your child to the classroom.

How do I know what class supplies to buy for my child?

At the start of the school year, there is a list of [school supplies](#) online. EduKits are a fundraiser for our FFO and also a way that you can buy supplies for your student, prior to the start of the school year. You can purchase the EduKit, or you can get the list and buy the supplies on your own. If you are starting the school year mid-year, talk to the classroom teacher and see if there is anything specific that your child will need.

How does my child get hot lunch every day?

This year your child has the option of getting free breakfast and hot lunch every day. Or your student is welcome to bring their lunch from home.

If you would like to see what is being served for breakfast and lunch at Ventana Vista, click [here](#), or the direct links below.

[Breakfast Menu](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

If I need to go to the front office during the school day, where should I park?

The lot directly in front of the school is for staff parking and may have extra spaces for visitors to park. The lot north of the school is also available for visitors to park.

For large school events in the past, we have offered bus service from the Bashas' parking lot on Sunrise/Kolb. We encourage all families to use this service.

How does the school handle food allergies?

Many children have health needs. It is important for us to know what those needs are. Please contact the office at 520-209-8000 or email our Health Assistant Charissa Jimenez at cjimenez@cfsd16.org and set up a meeting to make a health plan. We handle each child on an individual basis.

Do we need to pack a snack for our child?

Our teachers will allow students in Kindergarten, 1st Grade, and 2nd Grade to eat a snack one time during the day. The snack you send should be no bigger than the size of your child's hand. Students will have about 5 minutes to eat this snack. Be mindful of the ease of eating the snack with little to no clean up. Your child should be able to open any packaging that you send for snack. We do not allow any liquids other than water in our classroom. Do not send juice or sports drinks.

Do I need to send a water bottle? Sunscreen? Hat?

Yes. Please send a water bottle with your child's name on it. Students may refill the bottles throughout the day. Hydration is important in the desert!

Students may have sunscreen in their backpacks to reapply. Teachers will not apply the sunscreen, but can remind students to re-apply.

Hats are important for sun safety. Send a hat and remind your child to wear it at PE and recess. The teacher will remind students, as well. The hat should be labeled with your child's name.

How do I find out about the bus routes?

You may stop in the office and look at our maps or go to the Transportation page on our website: <https://www.cfsd16.org/index.php/administrative/transportation>

For current students, specific route/time information may be found on ParentVue under the Student Info tab, then scroll to the bottom of the page.

What is the Family Faculty Organization (FFO) and how do I get involved?

Our FFO, or Family Faculty Organization, is an active part of our community. Here is a link to [FFO website](#) for more information about volunteering and more. They raise money to support our school and our students. They plan community building events such as Bilingual Bingo, Halloween Trunk or Treat, Family Sweetheart Dance, Bobcat Fun Run, etc. We are hoping to have these events this year! Stay tuned!

What is REMIND?

Ventana Vista uses an app called [REMIND](#) for families to receive communication from teachers and the school. You can choose whether you get our communication via the app on your phone, text messages, or email. You can get it from your phone's app store or use your computer to create an account. Watch this video for a tutorial: https://youtu.be/W3_UQAC9hro

As a parent or caregiver of a student at our school, you may join Ventana Vista by doing a school search. Your child's teacher will share his/her class REMIND code with you to join at the beginning of the school year as well.

You will receive messages from the school and from your child's teachers once school begins. The front office sends out a weekly school newsletter, usually on Wednesdays during the school year via REMIND.

What is ParentVUE?

[ParentVUE](#) is an online platform for parents to view student's academic progress. You can also access additional information here such as attendance records, report cards, your student's school email and password, immunization records, and bus route information.

What is CARE? What is Community Schools?

CARE/Community Schools are additional programs that operate on our school campus. [CARE](#) is for before and after school child care from 6:30am-8am and 3pm to 6pm. [Community Schools](#) also offers enrichment classes on early release days and after school on other days for additional fees. Both CARE and Enrichment Classes are overseen by CFSD Community Schools.

Have a question or concern or need to tell us something...who should you contact?

Attendance & After School Plans: Avril Buick, abuick@cfsd16.org or 520-209-8002

Heath Office: Charissa Jimenez, cjimenez@cfsd16.org

Questions/Concerns about Teaching and Learning: your child's teacher

Friendship or Social/Emotional Concerns Counselor Christy McCoy, cmccoy@cfsd16.org
or 520-209-8005

Bus Questions/Concerns:

Kelly from First Students, 520-209-7581

or Avril Buick for immediate bus emergency, 520-209-8002

CARE or Enrichment Classes: Erin Usie-Cooper, eusiecooper@cfsd16.org or
520-209-8023

CARE or Enrichment Classes Payments or Registration: Debbie, dross@cfsd16.org or
520-209-7550