



Westfield School

Year 6 – Year 7 transition

Information for students, parents and carers

For students starting in September 2018



Westfield School

Welcome to Westfield School

Dear Student,

Welcome to Westfield School! Whichever school you come from, we look forward to welcoming you into our community.

I know what a big milestone this is in your life and want to reassure you that we will do everything to make the transition as smooth as possible.

I am extremely ambitious for every student at Westfield and am committed to ensuring you realise your true potential. There are so many opportunities here that you can take advantage of – whether your passion lies in sport, leadership, the arts, science, technology, languages, business or humanities.

This is my first year as Head of Westfield, so I am quite new too. However, I've found everyone to be friendly and supportive, and very much feel part of the school family. I've built a new leadership team around me and together we are working hard to make Westfield the outstanding school it has the potential to be.

I've also introduced the **ARKS** ethos which is at the heart of all we do and embodies the four simple expectations we have of everyone at Westfield: that they are **Ambitious, Ready, Kind and Safe**.

As you may know, the school has been led by Chorus Education Trust for the past year, and will be joining officially the Trust this year. I know from personal experience that Chorus has the expertise and track record to guide Westfield to a bright future.

We have a state of the art building that offers you a wide range of exciting, new opportunities for their teaching and learning experiences. Year 7 through to 11 are able to take advantage of our sports centre, swimming pool, music rooms, design and technology equipment and ICT facilities, to name but a few.

Moving to a new school is always going to feel a little bit daunting and at the same time exciting. I hope this booklet gives you a flavour of our school without overwhelming you with information. We'll tell you more at our Induction Evening on 5 July. You can find out about that and other key transition dates in here too.

We are excited to have you joining us here at Westfield and look forward to meeting you. In the meantime, please look at our website to find out more about the school before you join us: www.westfieldschoolsheffield.org.uk



Mr J Birkbeck
Head of Westfield School



Dates for your diary

PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS

The Year 7 transition team will visit pupils in their primary school to meet them and help prepare them for their move to Westfield School. They will also discuss the needs of each pupil with their primary teachers.

UNIFORM EVENING

Thursday 21 June, 3.30pm – 6.30pm (drop in whenever suits you).
At Westfield School. All welcome.

This is an open evening to try on sample sizes and order uniform. We recommend that parents order uniform as soon as possible to ensure that pupils arrive on the first day of the new school year in full uniform.

Please note that our uniform is changing this year!

Orders can also be placed directly via the website:
www.schooltrendsonline.com/uniform/WestfieldSchoolS201HQ

SEN INDUCTION EVENTS

Invitations to be sent out.

TRANSITION EVENING

Thursday 5 July, 6:00pm – 7:30pm. At Westfield School. All welcome.

Pupils will meet their new ARKS key workers and spend time in these groups getting to know their classmates. Parents will receive presentations from the Head of School, Mr Birkbeck and other members of the Senior Leadership Team.

TRANSITION WEEK

Monday 16 July to Friday 20 July 2018.

Pupils should arrive at school by 8.25am and will leave at 2.45pm.

START OF YEAR 7

Wednesday 5 September 2018

Pupils should arrive at school by 8.25am and will leave at 2.45pm.

Leadership team at Westfield School



Mrs Paul
Executive
Headteacher,
Chorus Education
Trust



Mr Birkbeck
Head of Westfield
School



Mr Lambourne
Deputy
Headteacher



Mr Simmons
Deputy
Headteacher



Mrs Ashmore
Assistant
Headteacher



Mr Gardiner
Assistant
Headteacher



Miss Hodges
Assistant
Headteacher

Other useful people to know

Miss Hopkinson
Head of Don Hall

Mrs Robinson
Pastoral Manager

Mr Adams
Head of Loxley Hall

Mrs Murray
Pastoral Manager

Mr Ward
Head of Rivelin Hall

Mr Thompson
Pastoral Manager

Mrs Lister
Head of Sheaf Hall

Miss Suter
Pastoral Manager

Di Hague
Senior Pastoral Manager

Julie Elliott
Emotional and Well-being Support Worker

Julie Swift
Learning Support Co-ordinator

Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Inclusion

It is our aim here at Westfield to promote a policy of inclusion and integration for all of our incoming Year 7 pupils. All pupils on the SEND register have a detailed learning support profile which is shared with the pupil's teachers to ensure quality-first teaching supports their additional needs

There will be additional transition sessions for vulnerable pupils with special educational needs throughout the year, and an opportunity for parents and carers to meet with key staff to discuss individual pupils' needs.

There is a wide range of staff in the school who are here to support students with their learning, behaviour and welfare.

Long term specialised provision

A few pupils receive long term provision because of their specialised needs. They require the skills of a specialist teacher or group of professionals to be involved. The majority of these pupils' time is spent in the mainstream classroom but their 'additional and different' provision is highly personalised and closely monitored. The class teachers are clear how to encourage independence and boost these pupils' self-esteem.

There are 2 groups: Endeavour and Apollo

Specific, time-limited provision

Some pupils receive additional SEN provision from well trained, highly effective staff. This is specific, time limited, evidence-based intervention for pupils who are not making good progress due to a special educational need. This includes reading, spelling, numeracy, speech and language, social emotional well-being and social skills work for pupils with ASD.

SEN transition events

Some pupils will be invited to participate in additional transition visits. These visits will help pupils become more familiar with the school and key staff.

Activities will include a coffee afternoon for parents and students, a range of learning activities and an experience of the school at social time. These visits are delivered by key learning support staff and supported by staff from the child's primary school

‘Early Risers’ transition week

Monday 16 July to Friday 20 July 2018.

All incoming Year 7 pupils will spend a week at Westfield School.

Please note: those coming from Halfway, Brook House, Reignhead and Emmanuel primary schools will also get to spend Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 July at Westfield, as their primary schools will not have broken up for the holidays.

On these days pupils will experience a variety of taster lessons, meet staff and pupils, and get to know the building. This is a vital part of the transition process and will help our new pupils get excited about starting at Westfield.

On the first day pupils should arrive at school by 8:25 and gather in the main hall where they will be met by the transition team. On subsequent days, pupils will follow a timetable including ARKS time.

In order to be prepared for the day pupils should:

- Bring a pen, pencil and ruler.
- Wear their primary school uniform.
- Wear footwear that is suitable for PE activities.
- Bring a packed lunch or about £3.00 to spend in the restaurant.
- Pupils entitled to Free School Meals will receive their usual meal allowance on the day.

Uniform

Our school uniform is changing! From September we will have a new school blazer and ties.

The new ties will reflect the hall that a student is in. There is a different coloured tie for each hall. These ties will be compulsory from September 2018.

The new blazer features our new logo. We appreciate that some families may want to use the old blazer if it has been passed down by a sibling or bought second-hand.

Further information will be made available to you about the uniform at the Induction Evening on 5 July and the Uniform Evening on Thursday 21 June.

Communication

We know how hard it can be for parents when their children start at secondary school. You no longer get to wait in the playground, meet other parents and speak to your child's one teacher. That's why we work hard to ensure you receive regular and clear communications from school.

Email addresses

In the coming weeks we will send you a data sheet, where you can provide further information about your child. Please ensure you provide an up to date, unique email address for all main carers. This email address is the key to accessing the communication apps **Weduc** and also for booking parents' evening appointments.

Weduc



This is a parental communications app we are introducing in the coming months. We will use it to send you direct messages, and it also has the school calendar plus other key documents, as well as a newsfeed. It provides information about your child, such as their attendance, timetable and teachers. We strongly recommend that you use this app, as we can instantly send you important messages, such as information about school closures. We will provide further information about how to use it at the Induction Evening.

Newsletters

We aim to send out a newsletter every half term to parents/carers and our local community. This brings together news of our students' achievements but also important updates. Please ensure you read it so you don't miss out.

Website

Our website is at: www.westfieldschoolsheffield.org.uk

It is currently being redesigned and a new version should be available at the start of the summer term.

There will be a section called '**Current parents & students**' where you can find year-specific information, as well as information relevant to all years.

Social media

We also post news and updates on Twitter via @WestfieldSheff

Subjects

Studying at secondary school is very different from primary school. Pupils will be taught by a range of subject-specialist teachers and will have lessons in classrooms across the school, which are specially equipped for the needs of each department. These include the science laboratories, drama and dance studios, languages labs, and the design and technology rooms.



Pupils in Year 7 will study a wide range of subjects including English, maths, science, history, languages, geography, RE, PSHE, art, design & technology, PE, drama, music, and ICT.



Reading

Westfield is a reading school where everyone encourages, supports, shares and celebrates the joy of reading for pleasure. During the Transition Week you will be provided with information about our Summer Reading Challenge. It will include suggestions of books to read, as well as activities you can undertake during the summer holiday.

Enrichment Activities

At Westfield, we aim to nurture our pupils' talents and interests. A wide range of activities are put on at lunchtimes and after school which all students are welcome to participate in. Departments also offer enrichment opportunities that allow pupils to experience their subjects beyond traditional classroom teaching.

Sporting activities currently on offer include:

- Table tennis club.
- Change4Life morning club.
- Sports Hall footy.
- This Girl Can club.
- London Legacy
- Interhall Cup.
- Dance club.
- Girls' football club.
- Badminton club.
- Netball club.
- Westfield Football Academy.
- Westfield Sports Leaders.
- Fitness club.
- Rugby club.
- Cross country club.
- Rounders.
- Athletics club.

Other activities currently on offer include:

- Visiting the local library.
- Going to watch a theatre production.
- Writing competitions.
- World Book Day celebrations.
- School library.
- English Leaders programme.
- Choir.
- Music lessons: guitar, drums and singing.
- Year 7 art club.
- Annual drama production.





Westfield School

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