



Westfield School

Year 6 – Year 7 transition

Information for students, parents and carers

For students starting in September 2022



Westfield School

Chorus Education Trust

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.



Myself and all of our staff team are extremely ambitious for every student at Westfield and we are 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.

Many of you will already have visited our amazing building that offers a wide range of exciting, new opportunities for your teaching and learning experiences. You will be 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. We work together to ensure a smooth transition. I hope this booklet gives you a flavour of our school without overwhelming you with information.

This booklet is just a starting point – we look forward to being able to meet you later this year to continue your preparations to join Westfield. In the meantime, please look at our website to find out more about the school before you join us: **www.westfield-chorustrust.org**

Mr J Birkbeck
Head of Westfield School

Dates for your diary

PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS

The Year 7 transition team will visit students in their primary school to meet them and help them to get 'Westfield Ready'. They will also discuss the needs of each student with their primary teachers.

SEND INDUCTION EVENTS

Our Learning Support Team pride themselves on working closely with children with special educational needs or disabilities, their families and their primary schools, to ensure extra care is given to ensure a successful transition to primary schools.

Our Learning Support Team will communicate directly with the families of children with SEND to offer additional support with transition.

WELCOME EVENINGS

Tuesday 5th July – DON & LOXLEY students

Thursday 7th July– RIVELIN & SHEAF students

Students will have a chance to look around Westfield and meet members of staff and their form tutor. Parents will receive presentations from the Head of School, Mr Birkbeck and other members of the Senior Leadership Team.

TRANSITION DAYS

Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 July

Our new Year 7 students will be invited to spend two days at Westfield, during which they will meet their classmates and some of their teachers. They will take part in activities designed to help them to settle into Westfield.

Students should arrive at school by 8.40am and will leave at 2.30pm.

START OF YEAR 7

Monday 5 September

Students should arrive at school by 8.40am and will leave at 2.30pm

Leadership team at Westfield School



Mr James

Chief Executive
Officer (CEO),
Chorus Education
Trust



Mr Birkbeck

Head of Westfield
School



Mr Lambourne

Deputy
Headteacher



Mr Griffiths

Deputy
Headteacher



Mr Gardiner

Assistant
Headteacher



Mr Simmons

Deputy
Headteacher and
Safeguarding Lead



Ms Tiffin

Assistant
Headteacher



Mrs Newton

Business Manager

Other useful people to know

At Westfield there are lots of people here to support you.

You will be part of:

- a form group,
- a year group,
- and a hall.

You will start most mornings with your form group. This is a chance for your form tutor to talk to your form about any important news, and to check how you are doing.

Once a week you will have an assembly with your year group. This is a chance for Mr Birkbeck and his team to talk to you.

Every student in the school is a member of one of our four Halls, each named after a local river: **Don (red)**; **Loxley (blue)**; **Rivelin (yellow)**; **Sheaf (green)**. Our school logo reflects the colours of the four Halls. Students wear a tie that contains the colour of their Hall. They are allocated into a Hall when they first join the school and stay within that Hall until they leave school in Year 11.

If you have any problems, you can talk to your form tutor or any of the people listed below.



Mrs Page

Head of Key Stage
Transition



Year 7
Pastoral Manager



Mrs Hague

Inclusion Manager and
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs Swift

Learning Support
Co-ordinator

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion

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

Specific, time-limited provision

Some students receive additional SEND provision from well trained, highly effective staff. This is specific, time limited, evidence-based intervention for students 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 students with ASD.

SEN transition events

Some students identified by their current school, are invited to participate in additional transition visits/meetings. These will help students become more familiar with the school and key staff. These additional transition visits include 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.

Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform, which was inspired by ideas from our students. Our ties reflect the Hall that a student is in. There is a different coloured tie for each Hall. Students can wear either our blazer or v-neck jumper – both of which have the school logo on them.



Further information will be made available to you about the uniform at the Welcome Evenings in July.

You can also order uniform from our supplier's website. For more information see our webpage: www.westfield-chorustrust.org/uniform

This page also has a handy checklist of all the uniform and equipment you will need. We will update this in the summer term.



Transition days

Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 July 2022.

All incoming Year 7 students will spend two days at Westfield School.

On these days Year 6 students usually experience a variety of taster lessons, meet staff and students, and get to know the building. This is a vital part of the transition process and will help our new students get excited about starting at Westfield.

On the first day students should arrive at school by 8:40am and gather in the Main Hall where they will be met by the transition team.

In order to be prepared for the day students 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.
- Students entitled to Free School Meals will receive their usual meal allowance on the day.



Communication

We know how hard it can be for parents when their children start at secondary school. That's why we work hard to ensure you receive regular and clear communications from school.

Email addresses

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 app **Weduc** and also for booking parents' evening appointments.

Weduc



This is a parental communications app we use to send you direct messages. It also has the school calendar plus other key documents such as student reports, as well as a newsfeed. It provides information about your child, such as their attendance, behaviour, 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 Welcome Evening.

Newsletters

We send out an electronic newsletter every week or so, with a message from the Headteacher and news of students' achievements. It contains important updates so please ensure we have your up to date email address.

Website

Our website is at: www.westfield-chorustrust.org

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

There is also a page about transition at: www.westfield-chorustrust.org/transition

Social media

We also post news and updates on social media:

Facebook: **@WestfieldSchoolSheffield**

Instagram: **@WestfieldSchoolSheffield**

Twitter: **@WestfieldSheff**

Subjects

Studying at secondary school is very different from primary school. Students 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, swimming pool, gym, and the design and technology rooms.



Students 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. We love that books can teach you important new knowledge, take you on wild and wonderful journeys to different places and times, and also get you to consider and debate interesting ideas. During your time at Westfield you will be set regular reading challenges, will be supported to log reading in your planners, and become amazing authors yourselves. In lessons we will share reading recommendations for new and exciting books and you will be able to continue to develop your reading and love of books during your regular reading lessons which take place in our fantastic library.



Numeracy

Numeracy is a proficiency which is developed mainly in Mathematics but also in many other subjects. It is more than an ability to do basic arithmetic; it involves developing confidence and competence with numbers and

measures. It requires a solid understanding of the number system and a repertoire of other mathematical techniques. Westfield School is committed to raising the standards of numeracy of all of its students, so that they develop the ability to use numeracy skills effectively in all areas of the curriculum and the skills necessary to cope confidently with the demands of further education, employment and adult life. We are designing our curriculum to ensure that all students benefit from the increased social mobility that materialises when one is confidently numerate.

Enrichment Activities

At Westfield, we aim to nurture our students' 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 students 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:

- Maths Puzzle of the Week.
- UK Junior Maths Challenge.
- UK Intermedia Maths Challenge.
- Pop Maths competition.
- Visiting the local library.
- Going to watch a theatre production.
- Writing competitions.
- World Book Day celebrations.
- School library.
- Choir.
- English Leaders programme.
- Music lessons: guitar, drums, piano and singing.
- Band rehearsals.
- Year 7 art club.
- Annual drama production.

Attitudes to Learning and the 5Rs

Our aim is to support all Westfield Students to develop an exceptional Attitude to Learning. We know that students who show a consistently great Attitude to Learning go on to achieve fantastic grades and to have bright futures when they leave Westfield.

Each student is given an Attitude to Learning grade by their teachers at the end of each half term. We share these grades in reports home to parents, and form tutors work closely with students to support them to develop and maintain an exceptional Attitude to Learning, which is a 'Grade 1'. We use the 5Rs to help us to define what we mean by an 'exceptional' Attitude to Learning.

The 5Rs are:

R EADY TO LEARN

R ESILIENT

R ESOURCEFUL

R eflective

R espectful

We know that if our students understand what each of these characteristics means and can work hard and be supported to develop these characteristics, they will achieve incredible things during their time at Westfield!