Westfield Family of Schools



News for families within the Westfield Family of Schools | January 2019

Issue 1



Message from Westfield's headteacher...

I'm delighted to announce that Westfield School has now officially joined Chorus Education Trust. Although we have been working under their leadership for over a year, we are now able to really power on with the changes needed to make Westfield an outstanding school.

This includes appointing two additional Assistant Headteachers, who start this term. The first is Mr Appleford, who was previously the Head of Maths at Silverdale School. The second is Ms Fisher, who previously lead English at High Storrs school. They will also lead these subjects.

They join the subject specialists we have already recruited in a range of areas. If you want to find out more about all the changes we have (and are still making!) visit my page on our website at:

www.westfield-chorustrust.org/ headteacherswelcome

This year we're delighted that Westfield is oversubscribed! More people put our school as their first preference than we have places. This is a real testament to the improvements we have made in the school. If you have applied then below are some useful dates.

As ever, if you want to know more about Westfield please do get in touch.

Joe Birkbeck, Head of Westfield School headteacher@westfield-admin.co.uk

Key dates for Year 7 transition

School places are allocated 1 March 2019

Families receive school offer.

Primary school visits March to April 2019

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 13 June 2019 3.30 - 6.30pm

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 we have a new school uniform this year. Held at Westfield School. All welcome. Drop in whenever suits you.

SEN induction events 17 June - 5 July 2019

Invitations will be sent out to selected students and their families.

Welcome evening Wednesday 3 July 2019 6.00 - 7.30pm

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. Held at Westfield School. Open to all Year 6 students who are due to join us in September 2019 (and their parents).

Transition week 14 - 19 July 2019

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

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.

To keep up to date with information about transition please visit our website at:

www.westfield-chorustrust.org/transition



First Westfield students join Silverdale Sixth Form

As part of Chorus Education Trust, Westfield students get priority access to Silverdale Sixth Form-where results are consistently some of the best in the city.

This summer saw the first group of Westfield student taking up their places there. They travel on a subsidised bus which goes directly from Westfield to Silverdale, picking up students at stops along the route.



This includes student, Ethan, who was one of only 732 teenagers in England to achieve grade 9s across the board.

Thousands raised for new library

You may have seen us working hard last term to raise funds for a new library.

It's part of our drive to improve literacy across the school. We want our library to be a rich resource for the whole school, at the heart of our community. We also want to be able to offer it to our Family of Schools as a place their students can visit.

We took part in *Hallam FM* and the *Sheffield Star's* **Schools Challenge** and will find out very soon if we raised enough to win an additional cash prize.

Thank you to everyone who supported our many fundraising activities. We will keep you updated on our progress.

Are you ARKS ready?

You may have heard about ARKS points and being ARKS ready at Westfield.

ARKS underpins all that we do and embodies four simple expectations we have of everyone in our community-that they will be:

Ambitious. Ready. Kind. Safe.

We launched our ARKS Points rewards system in June 2018, and it has been a great success!

Students receive ARKS 1 points in every lesson if they meet our basic expectations—of being on time, with the right equipment, the right uniform, their class and homework completed, and they are kind to others.

Many students are now regularly earning ARKS 2 points in lesson by being supportive to others in class, making positive contributions to lessons or producing excellent work.

ARKS 3 points are awarded for students who consistently go 'above and beyond'.

We also use ARKS 4 and ARKS 5 points to celebrate the achievement of students who take part in enrichment and/or extra-curricular activities, and for students who represent the school

We are delighted that since the beginning of the new school year a grand total of 176,000 ARKS Points have been awarded to students.

Year 5 Open Evening

This takes place on **Thursday 27 June 2019**, fron 4pm to 7pm. Find out more about the range of subjects we offer and our fantastic facilities from our indoor swimming pool to some amazing science experiments! Talk to teachers and students about life at Westfield.

£400K to improve reading skills

Chorus Trust's Teaching School last year won £400,000 to fund a literacy project across Sheffield. The project aims to tackle the 'reading slump' that often happens to students across the country, when they move from primary to secondary school. Westfield and its Family of Schools are involved, gaining new books and special training for staff as part of the project.

Westfield leads attendance plans

There is a strong link between good school attendance and high levels of attainment by students. So we have been increasing our efforts in this area. The results have been very positive and Westfield is now leading the strategy across Chorus Education Trust-offering support to other schools.

Working with local primary schools

Staff from Westfield and local feeder schools have been working together to improve student outcomes in English and Maths. They are ensuring that Westfield builds on the great work already taking place in primaries, so we make our lessons just as interesting and challenging for students.