

3 May 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to share with you some developments that will be occurring next year and beyond.

We are moving during the next academic year to all students buying skirts and/or trousers from us directly. We clarified our advice on skirt length and trouser fit at the end of the last academic year and recognise that even clothing that has been purchased from the uniform section of national clothing retailers leaves students wearing skirts and trousers that do not conform to our uniform code.

We have, with careful consideration, sourced clothing that meets our uniform code, ethically produced and of good quality. The price is significantly lower than that of uniform required at other local schools. This will be achieved by managing the sales ourselves instead of through a uniform shop. Since this will create additional demands on our Finance office, we will need to phase the introduction of the requirement for students to be wearing only skirts or trousers purchased from us.

New Year 7 students have been asked to follow this requirement for their start in September 2019. All other year groups will need to be wearing the new skirts and trousers by September 2020. Please remember this when purchasing new uniform during the course of the next academic year. You will find a detailed uniform price list with this letter.

We were pleased in the Summer term of 2018 that an OFSTED inspection again recognised Westfield Academy as a “Good” school. The Leadership team and Governors are ambitious in their desire to improve the school even further and achieve the outstanding outcomes that our school community aspires to.

Continual professional development of our staff is pivotal to this. A few of the development priorities include, enabling stronger links between subjects as we redevelop the curriculum, utilising fully the advantages that our Chromebooks offer, training staff to support students with complex needs to bridge the gap as local authority resources diminish due to national funding.

In order to facilitate this drive for even better provision for your child at Westfield, there will be two additional INSET days in the school calendar next year. We recognise that this additional INSET time may be difficult for some parents and have therefore elected to give as much notice as possible by positioning these extra two days in July 2020.



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The school calendar for next year is now available on the Westfield website. We have set the INSET dates where possible next to school holidays, in response to parental preference from previous feedback. Similarly to this year, we have also placed an INSET day on the 'Common Transfer day', after Year 11 have left Westfield and when Year 10 will be at Yeovil College. In September there will be consultation about the timing and the format of INSET for academic years beyond 2019/20.

We are committed in the coming year, to reinstating the tutor at the centre of communication with parents and so plan to start the new academic year with a Parent Tutor Day (4 September 2019). This will enable you to have a chance to meet individually with the tutor for an extended appointment and discuss the needs and aspirations of your child. It will also be an opportunity for the tutor to discuss with you how we can communicate best with home to support students and keep you informed. Staff from the SEN department will also be available on this day for you to make appointments. The Parent Tutor Day will run from 8.30am to 7.00pm, we will share details of how to book appointment times later in the term.

The Autumn term will commence with all students in normal lessons on Thursday 5 September 2019.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Dallimore', written in a cursive style.

Mr S Dallimore
Headteacher