



Thursday 11th June 2020

Dear Parent and Carers

### **School Opening Update 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Westfield has now been open to more children for almost two weeks and I am pleased to be able to say that things have been relatively smooth and that children, parents and staff have settled well into the new routines and systems in place. This week we have seen over 130 children (29% of the whole school population) return to classrooms.

Due to the restrictions in place, group sizes are much smaller than usual which requires many more staff and much more space. As a consequence, we are now in a position where we do not have much capacity left for additional children from the key year groups – Nursery, Reception and Year 1 or key worker children to join us. After next week, we may find ourselves in the position where we have to decline requests for children to return **or** change the offer we have in place so that children only attend part-time in the key year groups as we have for Year 6. Potentially, we may also have to request that children of key workers are only offered a place, where both parents are key workers. In fairness to all parents, if a child does not attend school when a place has been booked, they will be removed from the class list. Therefore, future surveys will close on Tuesdays with places being confirmed by the Wednesday for the following week. All children who have requested a place for w/c 15th June 2020 have been allocated a place.

At this point, I can confirm that we will not be able to open our doors to children from the other year groups before the end of term. I realise that this will be extremely disappointing to many parents and children. However, we will be sending more information in the next few days to explain how we will be keeping in touch with all children who are still at home and how we will support their learning, and health and well-being, in the coming weeks. As part of this, we are also making plans for transition to enable all children to meet their new teacher for September virtually towards the beginning of July.

Our governing body has worked extremely hard to ensure we can provide the best support possible for our families. It saddens me at the moment that schools seem to be receiving very bad press when staff in school are working tirelessly to provide provision under the strict guidelines that have been put in place. We agree that school is the best place for children to learn even though you have supported some amazing home learning in the last few months. However, unfortunately, we are limited as to what we can achieve in these very difficult circumstances and currently at Westfield we are reaching the maximum we can provide.

As always, please email the office if you have any further queries or questions and we will respond as soon as possible.

I hope that as lockdown eases, you and your families enjoy spending time with wider friends and family.

Yours sincerely

Emma Lote

Email: [office@westfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@westfield.staffs.sch.uk)  
Tel: 01902 892143  
Website: [www.westfield.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.westfield.staffs.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Emma Lote

Ounsdale Road,  
Wombourne,  
Wolverhampton  
WV5 8BH