



WESTCROFT SPORT AND APPLIED LEARNING COLLEGE

INFORMATION REPORT

2014/2015



VOCATIONAL



SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

WESTCROFT SPORTS & APPLIED LEARNING COLLEGE
GREENACRES AVENUE
UNDERHILL
WOLVERHAMPTON
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Website: www.westcroftschoo.com

Headteacher - Ms A Brown

Deputy Headteacher - Miss H Andrioli

Assistant Headteacher - Mr D J Alexander (14-19)

Lower Key Stage - Miss J Slym (4-13)

Director of Sport - Mr P Lord

Director of Applied Learning - Mr A Morris

Chair of Governors - Mr B Austin

SCHOOL HOURS

All pupils 8.50 am - 3.20 pm

ON WEDNESDAYS SCHOOL HAS AN EXTENDED DAY.
CHILDREN FINISH AT 4.20 PM NOT 3.20PM - TRANSPORT
ARRANGEMENTS REMAIN THE SAME, EXCEPT FOR ARRIVING
ONE HOUR LATE

MISSION STATEMENT

Together we can achieve

Everyone will be encouraged and supported to do their best in a safe and caring environment in preparation for life beyond school.

The aims of Westcroft School and Sports College are:

1. To provide a broad, balanced and appropriate curriculum.
2. To encourage positive personal, spiritual, social and cultural attitudes.
3. To guide each pupil towards achievement of their potential in all areas.
4. To provide activities promoting a healthy and active lifestyle, improving skills competence, independence and confidence.
5. To provide opportunities for pupils to experience, integrate and achieve in communities beyond that of Westcroft.
6. To encourage professional development and expertise of all staff in order to ensure high quality teaching and learning.
7. To welcome and nurture all cultural diversities.

CURRICULUM AIMS

To provide a positive, safe and stimulating learning environment for all our pupils.

To provide appropriate, meaningful and enjoyable learning experiences, that suitably challenge individual pupils and give opportunity to experience success.

To involve pupils in their learning process, sharing learning goals and resultant outcomes.

To enable pupils to acquire skills, knowledge and understanding from a broad spectrum of National Curriculum and extension activities.

To encourage and develop the use of thinking skills.

To acknowledge and reward achievement, attainment and good behaviour.

To inform and involve parents in their children's learning.

To teach, promote and encourage good and effective citizenship.

To encourage pupils to express preferences and communicate need.

To increase pupils' awareness and understanding of their environment and the world.

To give pupils the skills to interact with a wide range of people and function as independent citizens.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION AND CURRICULUM

Westcroft School has accommodation for 180 pupils with complex cognitive educational needs. The age range of pupils admitted to Westcroft is from rising five age up to nineteen years of age.

The school has two departments:

Years R - Year 8 (age Rising 5 - 13yrs)

Years 9 - Year 14 (age 14 - 19yrs)

(Key Stage Foundation - KS2 Rising 5 to 11 years)

In these key stages, as indeed the whole school, the concept of an inter-disciplinary approach is well supported. All pupils, depending upon their needs and capabilities, follow a structured programme of Language, Reading, Number and Arithmetic. Special attention is given to handwriting and spelling. In addition to their basic subject work all pupils are offered a full range of activities and teaching with the National Curriculum frame work based around themes and topics including the use of technology equipment, once again according to their needs and capabilities.

(Key stage 3 11-14 years)

The curriculum for KS 3 School pupils covers all aspects of the National Curriculum taught in the most relevant form for its pupils. Pupils continue to follow structured programmes for English, Maths, Science and ICT. Other National Curriculum subjects are delivered through a theme in a creative, linked curriculum. Each child has his/her Individual Learning Plan where learning priorities are focused. KS 3 also places a high importance in areas such as Health and Personal/Social Education and this is reflected in Outdoor

Education, Crime Prevention, Kidscape and Health Education programmes.

(KEY STAGE 4 15-16)

The year 10/11 programme prepares pupils for the transition to a post 16 placement either with us, at college, a training provider or employment in addition to consolidating and developing academic and basic skills for life.

Pupils follow the National Curriculum, and this is supported by distinct emphasis on independence and life skills teaching and experiences. Careers Education and Guidance (CEG) is central to the programme. All pupils have their own pupil entitlement to CEG documents so that they can record whether the school provides the teaching and experiences it says it will. 14-16 year old pupils consequently experience a wide range of curricular, vocational and social opportunities.

Pupils have the opportunity to gain Entry Level and vocational qualifications (depending upon their level of ability). Pupils in their last year of schooling may be given opportunity to experience sheltered work experience or for the majority of pupils who have greater independence, work experience without support.

POST 16 EDUCATION

Our Post 16 Centre caters for those young people who are generally operating at Entry Level 2 or below at the end of KS4. These young people are not yet ready to make the move to external college provision.

The curriculum at Post 16 focuses on three areas of developments:

- Key skills
- Work skills
- Life skills

Our Post 16 students have the opportunity to stay with us until year 14 or can leave after one year if they have made progress and are ready to move on.

ADMISSIONS

Our school has 180 places for pupils who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs/Education, Health and Care Plan. Students and parents are directed to our school through the LA after multi-disciplinary meetings. Westcroft takes pupils with complex cognitive difficulties.

Pupils without statements/EHCPs may be admitted. This is by agreement with the school, LA, team of professionals and parents. Children may then be offered an assessment placement (if available) and the school will complete the necessary referral for an EHCP.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The SEN co-ordinator is the Headteacher.

Her role is to co-ordinate provision for pupils

Monitoring pupil progress and adjusting provision accordingly

Allocating teaching assistants to best support needs

Ensuring that there is liaison with parents, other schools and professionals

Ensuring that there is a team of professionals within the school to best support the needs of all pupils

WORKING WITH PARENTS

The school has a Home School Liaison Manager (Mrs D Owen). Her role is to ensure that attendance for all pupils is at its highest level.

Mrs Owen is also our designated person for child protection and looked after children. As a School we have a duty of care to all our pupils and when we have concerns over the care of pupils we have a responsibility to contact social services.

Mrs Owen ensures that every effort is made to enable parents to work with the school and so develop positive and constructive relations with all parties. We have an open door policy and welcome informal drop ins from parents.

ASSESSMENT

At the start of each academic year, staff use previous knowledge of the child to begin our baseline assessment.

Evidence is gathered by observation of the children and within the first 6 weeks an Individual Learning Plan is drawn up for the pupil, which is shared with parents. These ILPs are monitored and revised termly.

Our assessment tool within school is B squared and this helps us to monitor small steps of progress.

As well as termly ILPs, pupils will have an annual review of their statement/EHCP and receive a yearly report in the summer term. There are opportunities for parents' discussions in the Autumn and Summer terms.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

We currently have 5 classes in the Primary phase. Pupils are set in these classes according to age. The classes are mixed year groups; there is a maximum of 12 pupils in each class.

In the Secondary phase the pupils are arranged in tutor groups which are related to NC years up to Year 11, maximum of 12 pupils in each tutor group. In Key Stage 3 pupils are broadly streamed for core subjects of English and Maths. For foundation subjects they are streamed across the Key Stage.

Post 16 pupils are organised as a whole, based around their individual plans.

STAFF EXPERTISE

All teaching is carried out by staff who are experienced in teaching children with learning difficulties. We have subject specialists across the school. We have a full time Speech, Language and Communication technician, who works with individuals or groups and provides staff support.

Staff are kept up to date with training through the school, outside agencies or training course providers.

TEACHING APPROACHES

The majority of pupils will have their needs met through normal classroom arrangement and appropriate differentiation. Teachers are encouraged to take a practical, creative approach to teaching. Where different approaches are needed this is will form part of the pupil's ILP.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

R. E. is taught through the school in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus (SACRE). Whole school assembly is held once a fortnight and throughout the year will cover and reflect on different religious faiths and practices, social and moral issues. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Assembly or R.E. lessons. They must do so in writing to the Headteacher. Alternative provision will be made for your child during these times. The School provides a broad and balanced approach to R.E. teaching and collective worship so all feel included.

HEALTH AND SEX EDUCATION

Self-care will be the general aim. At appropriate stages of school life, instructions and advice will be provided by members of staff or outside agencies on personal hygiene, diet, disability, sexual matters, and dangers of abuse, child development and preparing for parenthood.

The Governing Body of Westcroft Sport and Applied Learning College has decided that sex education should form part of the School's curriculum and will be undertaken as part of the Health Education Programme bearing in mind the cross curricular links

necessitated by the requirements of the National Curriculum. Sex education will be approached from a biological, ethical and moral viewpoint and a variety of teaching methods or organisation will be used. The expertise of outside agencies will also be sought.

REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

Pupils collect reward cards for positive behaviour and good work. These can be exchanged for various 'prizes' as and when they have collected enough. If enough reward cards are collected a reward trip to Drayton Manor Park or similar venue is arranged in the summer term. We do use short term exclusions when behaviour compromises safety and/or learning.

Westcroft Golden Rules

Follow Instructions



Ask if you need help



Inform a member of staff if you are having problems



Respect other people

**Consequences of Poor Behaviour
Reminder of Rules**



FIRST warning



SECOND warning



THIRD warning

FIVE MINUTES AWAY FROM GROUP



Invite BACK INTO CLASS



FOURTH warning

FILE NOTE and QUIET ROOM



GO TO SENIOR TEACHER

INCLUSION

Opportunities for integration exist at Primary and Secondary level, part time or full time and the school is supportive of transfers to mainstream schools and colleges where appropriate.

SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK

Every child has lunch at school.

School dinners are provided at a cost of £2.00 per meal. Dinner money is collected on a MONDAY. Please send your child's dinner money to school in an envelope marked with your child's name and class number.

Primary School lunch time 11.55 - 12.45 pm

Secondary School lunch time 12.45 - 1.35 pm

Dinners are prepared in the School Kitchen and are of a high standard. Special meals are prepared for children who have particular dietary requirements. Facilities are available for children to bring packed lunches should you so choose.

Some pupils will be entitled to free school meals and requests for this should be made in the first instance to Wolverhampton City Council (Tel: 01902 556556). Infant aged children are entitled to a free school meal.

Semi-skimmed milk is available for a pre-determined termly payment as agreed by Wolverhampton Education Committee and notified to parents in advance.

SCHOOL FUND

There is a school fund which is a combination of donations by parents and other interested people who wish to support the school. Parents are requested at the beginning of each term to donate a small sum of money to the School Fund (currently £2.00 per term). Money is also raised by special events such as the Summer Fete, Sponsored Walks and jumble sales and all is spent on activities and equipment for the children.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE (ABSENCE AND ILLNESS)

It is important that parents inform school, either by telephone or with a note via transport escorts, if their child is to be absent from school (Mrs S Cockhill or school office Tel: 558350 or 558343).

Leave of absence for pupils is only granted in exceptional circumstances. A leave of absence form must be filled and signed by the Headteacher. Taking holidays without this permission will result in a fine.

CHARGING AND REMISSION

Many parents will be aware that the 1988 Education Reform Act is having a considerable effect on the way schools are now being run. It introduced regulation to govern charging policies of all LA maintained schools.

The Act's main objectives with regard to charging policies are:

- 1 To maintain the right to free school education.
- 2 To establish that activities offered wholly or mainly during the school day should be available to all pupils regardless of their parent's ability or willingness to pay.
- 3 That the school should have some discretion to charge for optional activities.
- 4 To enable schools to ask for voluntary contributions for the general benefit of the school.

At certain times it will be necessary to ask parents to make a contribution towards the cost of activities within and outside the school day. Such contributions are of course, voluntary and no child will be excluded from any activity on the grounds that the parents are unable or unwilling to contribute. However if not enough people contribute towards the costs, the activity may have to be cancelled. The costs of extended visits are currently, however, benefiting from support from community contributions which means that funds are available to help meet the costs of such visits. If parents have difficulty in making a voluntary contribution, they are invited and welcome to contact the Head teacher in complete confidence.

No charge will be made for the provision of ingredients or material needed for practical subjects such as Technology including Food Technology. However, the school does ask for a voluntary contribution.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils from Reception up to and including Year 6 wear black trousers or skirt and blue polo shirt with a black sweat shirt emblazoned with the School logo.

Pupils from Year 7 to Year 14 wear black trousers or skirt and white polo shirts with black sweat shirt emblazoned with the School logo.

Trousers can be purchased at any retail outlet, but sweat shirts and polo shirts can be purchased from School at the following cost:

Sweat shirt 24" - 32" chest	£10.00 each
Sweat shirt S M L XL chest	£12.00 each

Blue/White polo shirts 26" - 32"	£6.00 each
Blue/White polo shirts S M L	£8.00 each

All pupils must also wear black shoes or trainers.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

The Governing Body has a general responsibility for the effective management of the school acting within the framework set by national legislation and by the policies of the Wolverhampton LA. It is responsible for staff appointments and for the oversight of the curriculum and school resources. The Governors manage the schools' own delegated budget

The Full Governing Body meets every half term to discuss policy and receive reports from the Head teacher. There are also sub-Committees for F & GP, School Improvement, Pay, Disciplinary and Appeals.

The Governors seek to form links between the school, the LA and the community it serves.

All correspondence to the Governors should be addressed to the School.