



Wakefield Grammar Pre-Preparatory School Newsletter 10.5.21

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - We have been working on the school development plan ready for the new school year. Below are the key priorities for the new school.

Quality of Education	<p>EYFS To ensure the new Early Years Foundation Stage learning goals are embedded into FS1/FS2 provision</p>	<p>Reading To develop a love of reading and ethos of reading for pleasure across school</p>	<p>Curriculum To ensure the curriculum is successfully adapted to be ambitious and meet the needs of all pupils</p>	<p>Environment To ensure the environment (both indoors and outdoors) reflects the needs and interests of the pupils whilst inspiring learners</p>	<p>Inclusion To develop a strong whole school ethos of inclusion where teachers take responsibility for the progress and development of all pupils</p> <p>To offer bespoke Social Emotional Mental Health support where needed</p>
Leadership and Management	<p>Staff CPD To develop subject content knowledge to enhance the teaching of the wider curriculum</p> <p>To provide a bespoke Continuing Professional Development offer for all staff</p>	<p>Distributed Leadership To ensure leadership at all levels impacts on raising the quality of education in all curriculum areas</p>	<p>Governance To ensure that the governing board are holding leaders to account for the educational performance of the school through effective monitoring and evaluation</p>	<p>Staff Well-being To ensure staff wellbeing and an ethos of promoting positive physical and mental health is embedded throughout school</p>	<p>Executive leadership and collaboration across WGSF To build a programme of support and challenge through executive leadership and collaboration across the Wakefield Grammar School Foundation</p>
Behaviour and Attitudes	<p>Pupil Voice To build pupil leadership teams to actively contribute to, and improve, the life of the school and the wider community</p>	<p>Extracurricular To develop opportunities for all children to be inspired and motivated by providing inspirational and engaging extracurricular provision</p> <p>Cultural capital To develop a whole school programme of activities which engage pupils and enhance cultural capital</p>		<p>Many links across these two areas</p>	

<p>Personal Development</p>	<p><i>Reflective, articulate and Philosophical learners</i> Philosophical sessions and sentence stems allow children to question, articulate their thoughts and develop responses to 'big ideas'</p>	<p><i>Relationship and Health Education</i> To further develop an age-appropriate programme of relationship and health education to meet the pupils' ongoing emotional and physical development and to build in a proactive response to Covid and lockdowns</p>	
<p>Quality Assurance</p>		<p><i>Whole school quality assurance</i> To build a robust programme of quality assurance for all areas of school life</p>	

FAQs

Will we get to see the new school facilities along with our child?

We will be sending videos home over the summer holidays for you to see the facilities within the new school. The children will get to see the school as part of their transition during the summer term. If Covid guidance allows, we will invite parents in before the summer term. If we cannot facilitate this, these tours will be available in the autumn term. Although we understand this is frustrating, the autumn term will allow parents to see the Wakefield Grammar Pre-Preparatory School rather than Mulberry House provision, as it is now.

How will you introduce the boys to the new environment?

The boys will all visit the new environment and have a tour of the school during the summer term.

Will waiting room be available?

Yes, the waiting room will continue to be available from 3.30-4pm.

Will they continue swimming lessons?

All children will go swimming from FS2 (Reception). Children in FS2 will swim from the summer term.

Will the TAs be the same?

Most of the TAs will be the same. There are a small number of TAs who are on temporary contracts and these are not being renewed. Some of the TAs may change year groups.

How will the sporting activities be done?

We are currently planning with QEGS and WGHS to timetable our PE, games and swimming lessons. All children will be offered a full games and PE timetable, with children swimming from FS2. We are also looking at extracurricular provision and a timetable for this will be available soon.

How will you make allowances for girls superior fine motor skills so boys do not become despondent at struggling to write?

We understand that boys and girls learn differently. All children develop at different rates and will progress at their own pace. We will work with all pupils to develop their handwriting when they are ready for example, with cursive writing. We will ensure there are plenty of opportunities across school for all children to develop their fine motor skills which are crucial for being able to handwrite.

How will you ensure any teachers who have only taught one sex for a considerable period of time have any required skills/knowledge refreshed?

We will have a comprehensive programme of professional development available for all staff in school. There will also be opportunities for the staff to observe one another. We will be working with both junior sections to ensure that we are preparing the children for the curriculum they will receive in KS2 (Key Stage 2).

Will parents be told which of their son's friends will move into their class with them?

A letter will go out to parents on 9th June which highlights the class your child will be in. The staff are working hard to ensure the children are with children they are friends with.

Will the staff who run Hoots at CH be running the new ASC? When will we find out which staff are moving over?

We hope to be able to give parents a list of staff for each year group, Early Morning Care, After School Care etc. by half term.

How will you ensure a focus is kept on the different ways boys and girls learn?

We are looking carefully at staff professional development and will continue to research how boys and girls learn. There will be many opportunities for the children to learn in different ways and present their learning in the way they have chosen. All pupils will be getting an enhanced National Curriculum offer at our new school and an enhanced learning environment that meets individual needs.

Will there be an equivalent of the adventure playground?

We are currently planning for a new water/sand area in the Foundation play area at the back of school. We are also in the process of finalising the design for the front of school. Although we want to keep this area quite open, so it can be used flexibly (for PE, bike riding, ball games etc.), we are also planning to have a climbing frame. Both spaces can be used by classes in school.

We do have a number of balance bikes/trikes in our Foundation provision. If you have a balance bike, in good condition, that is no longer in use in your house, please do consider whether you are able to donate this to the school. We would appreciate any support with this.

Will there be a dedicated computer room like at Centenary House?

Although there will not be a dedicated computer room, we feel this may be a positive thing going forward. We are purchasing chrome books which can be booked out by each class - this will mean that they can use ICT across the curriculum. We will continue to evaluate the ICT provision moving forward.

How will the children be supported through this transition (which is a bigger change than the usual progression to a new school year)?

We have a comprehensive programme of transition which starts this week with passports being sent home to complete. The children will have a transition day, the boys will have opportunities to come to the new school and the children will have videos from their new teachers. Over the summer, as the work to the playground and Foundation stage is completed, we will send videos to show the children.

How will Year 2 be made to feel part of the junior school where they are physically located as well as part of the Pre-Preparatory school?

Mrs Butler and Mrs Gill will both be in the junior school every week for assemblies. We have planned opportunities for the children in Year 2 to present their learning to one another and to have joint games lessons once a week. Staff from WGPPS will teach the Year 2 boys as their class teachers and they will also be taught French by a member of our staff. The Year 2 boys will also take part in a daily Philosophy for Children session, thinking about and discussing the same text as the classes in WGPPS. They will also be on our school council. We are currently planning the extracurricular provision for next year and also hope to offer joint clubs (where appropriate and logistically possible), for Year 2 girls and boys.

Will there be familiar teaching staff for the boys to help with this move?

Yes, there will be a number of staff moving to the Junior school with the boys. The staff working in the Year 2 boys' classes will all be WGPPS staff and therefore working on our curriculum.

Is consideration taken for boys who are quieter to ensure they have the opportunity to be ambassadors for one of the areas requiring a pupil voice?

We would like all children to get an opportunity to have a voice in school. All children are eligible to apply for the pupil leadership opportunities in school and we are sure that once the children have settled, they will identify other roles they wish to explore.

Please continue to send in your questions to school via the school office or you can email them directly to Mrs Gill on egill@wgsf.net. Thankyou!