



Watton Westfield Infant and Nursery School, West Road, Watton, Norfolk, IP25 6AU

<http://watton.corvuseducation.com>

Tel: 01953 882669 Fax: 01953 881602 Email: office@westfield.norfolk.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Lightbown

Head of School: Mrs H Kemp

Tuesday 18th December 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Many thanks for sharing your concerns about the class changes in January. We would like to explain exactly why these changes have to happen. Firstly, we have had a reduction of pupil numbers in Key Stage 1 due to many Key Stage 2 children being unhappy and leaving Wayland Junior Academy. This in turn impacts us at Watton Westfield as parents look to the outlying primaries to take their children to. We have had multiple letters from parents telling us how happy they are with the education and support their children receive at Westfield, but purely due to travel and time constraints, they have to take their younger child to the primary they have moved their older sibling to. I can assure you that these letters have been shared with the local authority as we are so concerned about the issue. The impact on us at Westfield is that our pupil funding has been reduced and that we now have 140 children in Key stage 1 which equates to 5 classes with 10 spaces available.

In addition to this Mrs Oswick has secured a Head of School position at a small primary school and Miss Dowson has chosen to move to another setting as a pre-school teacher. As you can imagine, this was sad news for our school as she has formed good relationships with her class and the staff here at Westfield.

We had advertised for a new Key Stage 1 teacher but unfortunately it is a difficult time of year to recruit teachers. We have managed to secure two supply teachers, who are known to the school and the children, until the end of the academic year ensuring stability. They have been in recently to meet the children in Meerkats and to plan with the year 1 teachers.

The teachers have worked hard to ensure that the children were placed in friendship groups in their new class. We also looked very carefully at the different needs of the children to ensure that all classes were an even mix of abilities. The children are familiar with the Teacher and Teaching Assistant in their new classes having spent time together this half-term.

Miss Mitchell is teaching the Year 1 / 2 class as she has experience of teaching both year groups. We know that mixed year groups can work well as it is common practise in most of the local primaries in Norfolk.

All our Teachers and Teacher Assistants are dedicated to the welfare and education of the children who attend our school and we are very proud of what we have achieved over the last few years. It is their commitment that makes Watton Westfield the amazing school that it is.

We hope that this answers your questions about the situation.

Kind regards,

Mrs Kemp and Mrs Lightbown



Registered in England & Wales No 10523505. Registered office: Manor Road, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2XR





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