



WESTFIELD
ACADEMY

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PROSPECTUS 2018/19

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“Westfield Academy
offers exciting
opportunities for
young people who
aspire to achieve
their true potential.”

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WELCOME

I'd like to welcome you to Westfield Academy. An amazing school where I'm extremely proud to be the Headteacher.

We are an amazing school and a fabulous alternative to the local Grammar Schools and we understand, profoundly, the need to get the right students onto the right courses and of offering students high quality advice, support and guidance throughout their time with us.

Our last two Ofsted inspections have judged us as Good (2012 and 2016). In particular, in 2016 they highlighted that the "school had improved in many areas since the predecessor school was last inspected." This is extremely gratifying for both the students and the local community as it demonstrates what we believe which is that we are always developing and moving forward. For me as Headteacher it was particularly pleasing that inspectors identified that my team have "raised the school's expectations of pupils' behaviour" and that pupils "behave well in lessons and around school."

School should be and can be very simple. Good teaching and good behaviour leading to outstanding results for the students.

We are committed to delivering the best learning, support and guidance for our young people during their time here and are proud of the academic and personal progress that students make at Westfield Academy.

Westfield is an academy where pupils are encouraged to work hard, to strive to become the best that they can be, and get on the right track to start planning their own futures and achieving their own ambitions.

In December 2016 I was so proud to lead the school into our fabulous new facilities. I believe that it has given our students the resources they deserve and has increased their pride and drive to achieve.



This prospectus will give you a flavour of what we do here but please do ask us questions, visit us during a school day or make an appointment to meet me.

We are delighted that you are considering joining us and look forward to welcoming you.

Tim Body, Headteacher

YOUR FUTURE AT WESTFIELD ACADEMY

Moving from primary to secondary school is a big move and we do everything we can to ensure this move is as seamless and anxiety free as possible.

We aim to get to know our new students as quickly as possible; students past experiences and knowledge are taken into account when we are planning their learning. We work closely with the primary schools and visit every local school to ensure that we have all the information necessary to help children make that transition.

The transition process is very important and its aim is to make sure academic and pastoral arrangements are made in a way which ensures progression.

We continue to develop stronger links with primary schools in and around Watford. Pupils across Key Stage 2 regularly visit us to experience hands-on lessons in a wide range of subjects. Our specialist teachers also visit primary schools to teach - starting the process of getting to know our new children as early as possible.

All new students are invited to attend a three-day 'Summer School' where they meet their tutors, get a feel for the school and meet their new friends. For more information on this, please email: transition@westfield.herts.sch.uk

"I was nervous starting secondary school as I was not used to being in a big school. I didn't know if I would fit in. I came to the Summer School and met lots of new friends and I have also made lots of new friends that were from different primary schools."

James, Year 7

"We are just thrilled as Westfield Academy is so the right choice for our daughter! It wasn't an easy decision taking her away from the local choice of all her peers but she is happy and settled and loving her time at school. The help and guidance we received have made the transition to secondary school so much easier."

Parent





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TEACHING AND LEARNING

We are fortunate to have some incredible teachers. Their teaching is relevant, varied and challenging, imparting skills that make learning enjoyable and bringing academic success.

The teachers aim to engage with all students by setting minimum expected grades, monitoring their learning and intervening when required. We want to ensure that every young person can achieve their true potential.

Pupils love the challenge of learning and at Westfield Academy we strive to offer all our students the very best learning experiences available. We want our students to be independent learners, aware of how to learn and yet also be resilient when the learning process proves challenging.

“Pupils make good progress. They join the school in Year 7 with levels of attainment that are consistently below the national average. When they reach the end of Year 11, their standards are in line with the national average in a wide range of subjects, including English and maths.”

Ofsted 2016

“Teaching is good. Pupils’ work shows that many teachers have high expectations of what pupils achieve.”

Ofsted 2016

“A scrutiny of pupils’ work showed clear progress in many subjects.”

Ofsted 2016

CURRICULUM

A curriculum to inspire success

We pride ourselves on offering a rich, varied and aspirational curriculum for all our students. We don't believe that one size fits all. We believe that our curriculum should develop to meet the needs of the young people we teach. We believe that young people achieve their best in a learning environment in which they feel engaged, valued and respected.

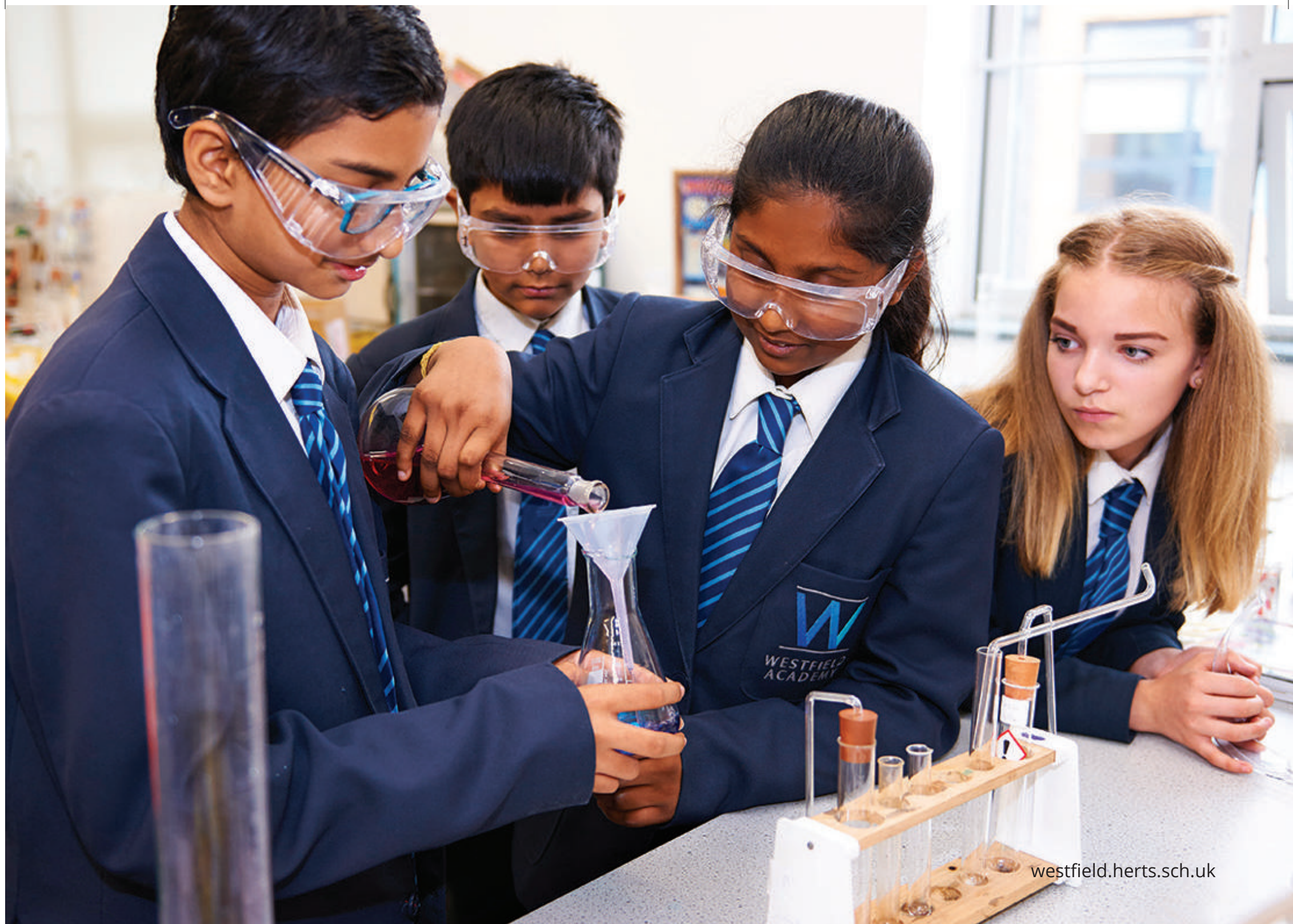
All students at Key Stage 3 follow a broad and balanced curriculum which includes all the National Curriculum subjects, with all students studying English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Geography, a Modern Foreign Language, ICT, Sport and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education.

As students move into Year 9 the range of subjects expands so that our students can choose from a wide range of options, including a full range of traditional GCSEs, BTEC and other vocational courses.

“Outcomes for learners following the vocational route are very positive, with almost all learners gaining a distinction or distinction plus award in many courses.”

Ofsted 2016





SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

Good learning happens when students feel secure and enjoy school life.

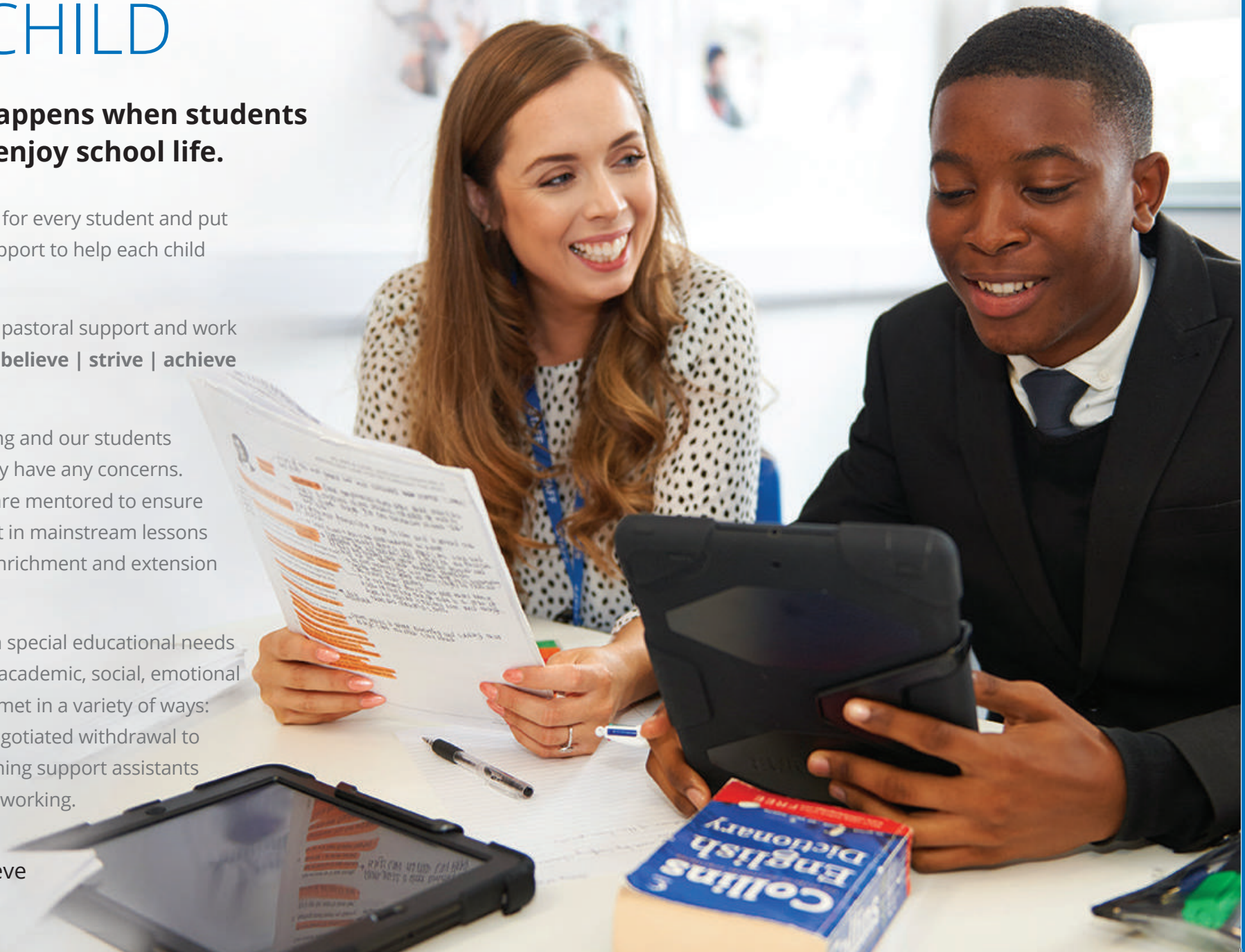
We have high aspirations for every student and put in place the necessary support to help each child achieve.

We provide high levels of pastoral support and work hard to instil the values – **believe | strive | achieve** into all our students.

We do not tolerate bullying and our students know who to talk to if they have any concerns. High achieving students are mentored to ensure their needs are being met in mainstream lessons and through a range of enrichment and extension opportunities.

Support for students with special educational needs (SEN), whether these are academic, social, emotional or physical disabilities, is met in a variety of ways: through class support, negotiated withdrawal to work with literacy or learning support assistants and through small group working.

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ENRICHMENT

At Westfield Academy we pride ourselves on offering a broad and rich range of extra-curricular activities to complement and enrich the regular school day.

Life beyond the classroom is incredibly important and allows young people to develop crucial skills and attributes such as confidence, independence and resilience.

We have many extra-curricular clubs and teams including football, cross country, rugby, netball and basketball.

Those keen to be outside and explore can take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme. There's lots of other clubs including Latin, Chess, Drama, Music, Spanish, French and Dance Club.



SPORTS FACILITIES

At Westfield we are fortunate to have some of the best sporting facilities in the area.

The Westfield Community Sports Centre based on our site offers a fitness suite, dance studio, sports hall and badminton courts, and is open to students and the wider community.

Our new state-of-the-art 3G Football Astro Turf Pitch means football and rugby training and matches are played all year round. Our Watford Football Academy players benefit from this new facility that has the backing of Watford FC. The students get extra football coaching, both during PE and after school from the Premier League side's coaches.



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COMMUNITY

Westfield Academy is at the cornerstone of a thriving community and we encourage all our students to engage with their community through a range of events and projects.

We are sharing our fantastic facilities with local people and are working in collaboration with businesses and groups to develop long lasting partnerships that will benefit everyone.

The campus is state-of-the-art. Thanks to substantial funding we can confidently say we have the best learning facilities in the area.

If you are interested in hiring any of our facilities for business or community use please visit: westfield.schoolhire.co.uk



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HOW TO APPLY

Admissions Policy

Please download a copy of our Admissions Policy from: www.westfield.herts.sch.uk

Or write to us at: Applications, Westfield Academy, Tolpits Lane, Watford WD18 6NS.
You can telephone us on: **01923 231 560** and we'll send a copy of the policy to you.

Applications

Applications for places in the normal admissions round for Year 7 at Westfield Academy will be made in accordance with Hertfordshire County Council's co-ordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by the Council.

For more information please visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions





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