

## **Consultation on a proposal to increase the number of places at Westcroft School up to 210 full time places.**

### School Information

Westcroft School is part of Central Learning Partnership Trust, providing education for pupils aged from 6- 19 years with Education Health and Care Plans. The school is located on Greenacres Avenue, WV10 8NZ.

Admissions to the school are as a result of Wolverhampton City Council determining that this is the most appropriate educational provision. Pupils admitted have an Education & Health Care Plan (EHCP) agreed by the Local SENSTART Team.

The school was rated good by Ofsted in 2024.

The planned changes to Westcroft will enable more young people with disabilities in Wolverhampton being able to attend a Specialist School.

### Proposal

In liaison and collaboration with Wolverhampton Local Authority, Central Learning Partnership Trust is proposing to make one statutory change:

- 1) To increase the pupil admission number at Westcroft from:  
Academic year 2025/26 – 180 planned places to 210

### Why is this necessary?

There is a need to meet rising demand for special school places, through the expansion of existing special schools across the city. Wolverhampton Local Authority has confirmed that there is a need to commission additional capacity with the city's special school estate to cater for the anticipated increase in demand in the short to medium term.

The Local Authority and CLPT have acknowledged that there will be some need to alter or extend the current site of Westcroft.

### Changes to admission arrangements

Westcroft is presently funded for 180 children with a range of needs as articulated in their EHCP's. Before a child is admitted to school it is usual for the Local Authority to have conducted a multi-disciplinary assessment to identify a child's learning difficulty and determine the special education provision the child needs. The outcome of the assessment results in an Education Health Care Plan.

As a school, we do not 'offer' places - this is the responsibility of the Local Authority.

The school has no catchment area and may admit children from all areas of the City of Wolverhampton also from neighbouring Local Authorities, if places are available. Any child who has an EHC plan that names the school must be admitted to the school, providing there are sufficient places available. The school, therefore, does not operate an over-subscription criterion. Gender, ethnic background or social status do not influence a child's admission to school.

Providing places are available, the school is able to admit pupils at the beginning of the Autumn Term each year. Admission at any other time is negotiable depending upon individual circumstances. Disruption to the education of other children in the school is also a factor to be considered.

Proposed changes to our admission arrangements are as follows:

- That the Published Admission Number (PAN) increases from 2025 from 180 to 210 and maintained at 210 thereafter.

### Implications for pupils attending Westcroft

The proposal will allow for Westcroft to provide high quality support to more children. There will be an increase in places available for school-aged pupils who require specialist provision.

### Implications for school staff

Staff currently employed to work at Westcroft will have no change to the quality of the teaching and learning provision and their associated duties and conditions of service will remain unaltered. Additional posts will be created as a new Staffing Structure is developed with effect from September 2025. This new structure will create more opportunities for promotion and staff may also see a reduction in workload as the school workforce increases. A larger school will offer more opportunities for professional development.

### Implications for other schools

The expansion of numbers on roll for Westcroft would ensure a minimum impact on other schools or provisions in the locality. Currently other special schools in Wolverhampton are at capacity with forecasts for the area indicating that there will continue to be a pressure on places if this expansion does not proceed.

### **In summary**

Our proposal is for Westcroft to expand on our existing site from 2025.

Westcroft will continue to provide excellent teaching, learning and care for young people with EHCP's.

### How can I make my views known?

CLPT are holding a three-week consultation on the proposal to ensure parents, carers and other stakeholders feel supported and engaged. Feedback is encouraged as this will inform the business case which will be submitted to the Department for Education in the Autumn Term of 2024.

We want to hear your views on the proposal to expand provision to 210 full time places at Westcroft.

We would like you to complete our consultation form. If you would like to request a remote / virtual consultation meeting via please contact the Executive Head Teacher at Westcroft School.

Views can be sent and shared in a number of ways. A consultation form is available at the back of this document which can be returned to the school or alternatively views can be expressed at a remote / virtual consultation meeting. Please request this via the school's Head Teacher through a letter or email [info@westcroftschoool.co.uk](mailto:info@westcroftschoool.co.uk). This document is also available on the school's website: [www.westcroftschoool.co.uk](http://www.westcroftschoool.co.uk)

If you would like to make any comments or suggestions, please return the attached consultation response form to:  
Westcroft School, Greenacres Avenue, Wolverhampton. WV10 8NZ.

The following timetable outlines the decision-making process.

Process	Date
Consultation Closes	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Comments collated and reviewed	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Business case submitted	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Implementation	September 2025

### Special requirements

Should you require reasonable adjustments, including help understanding this information or would like to request a hard copy of this information you can email [info@westcroftschoool.co.uk](mailto:info@westcroftschoool.co.uk)

## Expansion of Westcroft Consultation Response Form

Are you a:

Please tick

Parent / Carer of a child

Student

Governor

Member of School Staff

Member of staff within Wolverhampton City Council

Member of the Community

Do you agree with the proposal that Westcroft should expand up to 210 full time pupils from September 2025?

Yes

No

Don't know

Please add any comments here (and overleaf if necessary):

Please return this form by 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to Westcroft School (address above) or via email to [info@westcroftschoo.co.uk](mailto:info@westcroftschoo.co.uk). Alternatively, please use the links provided to complete the form.

Link for the form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/f8Xw8JzQ3u>

QR Code for the form:

