

March 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

As promised to parents and carers at our coffee morning in January, I am writing to confirm arrangements for our 16+ learners for 2017 – 2018. As you will be aware, there has been much debate nationwide (not to mention disappointment) around the cuts to 5-day provision for 16+ learners to 3 days per week.

I am writing to inform you that on Thursday, 23rd February, West Oaks' Governing Body made the decision to implement the change to move to a 3-day core Post 16 offer from 1st September 2018, thus allowing a further year for plans to be put into place to accommodate this change. We were very concerned that this would have to take place by September 2017.

Families will have a period to liaise with social care and other agencies to plan for the other 2 days. We are saddened that, in the future, we have to implement these cuts as the changes to our provision are beyond our control. However, we will continue to develop a provision model with our students, parents, carers and families that suits needs.

Please be re-assured that we are totally committed to delivering a Post 16 programme that continues to stretch our young learners, that prepares them for adulthood and supports progression into supported employment, work or further study as appropriate.

Over the next 18 months, you will be invited to several workshops that will help shape and plan the September 2018 delivery model. The first workshop / meeting will take place at West Oaks, Boston Spa site on Tuesday, 9th May at 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm and there will also be an opportunity to meet at Woodhouse Learning on Tuesday, 23rd May at 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm.

I hope to see you there, but there will be many other opportunities to share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Hodkinson
Principal