



# Woodlands Academy

Beechdale Road, Nottingham, NG8 3EZ

Academy Principal: Andrew Morgan

Tel: (0115) 9155 734  
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Website: [www.woodlands.co.uk](http://www.woodlands.co.uk)

Dear parents/carers

As we draw closer to the end of the year I wanted to write to you to inform you of some of the changes that have happened at Woodlands and some of the plans we have for the future.

This year has been extremely challenging for everyone with the long term effects of the pandemic. Our young people have suffered lockdown and extended periods away from school, getting to grips with remote learning and navigating their way through extremely uncertain times.

The pandemic has forced us to work differently and as a result we have spent a great deal of time reflecting on what we do and why we do it and thinking about what we could do differently. Despite the challenges we have faced there are many positives to take from these reflections.

## Vision and Values

As a staff team, we have reflected on our vision and values to come up with a shared purpose. Our main goal is to support our pupils to become independent learners with the skills to live happy and fulfilling lives. These discussions have led to us reviewing our curriculum and staffing structure as well as identifying 3 learning to better support our pupils with their wide range of SEND needs. Our intention is to provide a rich and highly personalised curriculum for all pupils, taking into account their individual needs. A document outlining the curriculum pathways has been included with this letter.

These discussions have also led to us undertaking a restructuring activity to better support our curriculum and learning pathways.

## Senior Leadership Team:

Andrew Morgan – Principal  
Joanne Doidge – Assistant Principal (Pastoral)  
Alistair Rea – Assistant Principal (Pathway 1 and 2)  
Andrew While – Assistant Principal (Pathway 3)



**STRONGER TOGETHER**

Sean Kelly  
Chief Executive Officer  
Raleigh Learning Trust

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## Middle Leadership Team:

Andrew Betts – Literacy Lead

Kirsty Stansfield – Creative Lead

Robin Tyler – Personal Development Lead

We have also appointed a new science teacher and classroom teacher and are finalising recruitment for some remaining vacancies.

## Curriculum Developments

Our vision and values discussions led to us re-evaluating our curriculum. English, Maths, PSHE and Character education have been a big focus this year to re-engage our pupils and support their wellbeing as well as provide them with the skills required to access the wider curriculum. We have also identified a need for more creative lessons and opportunities for our pupils to learn and practice valuable life skills, supporting their development and independence. We have changed our timetable to allow for this and the better structure the school day.

Our timetable will now have more of an academic focus in the mornings with an higher emphasis on core subjects such as Maths, English, Science etc with more of a focus on life skills, PE, Character and Creative education in the afternoons.

## Sensory Room

We have negotiated the Nottingham City SEN to fund the creation of a sensory room. This is an exciting project which will bring a much needed resource to support our pupils with sensory needs. Works have started and will be complete before we break up for summer.

## Bike Project

In partnership with Nottingham Bike works, we have made a significant investment of our Sports Premium budget on starting a bike project. We are in the process of obtaining a number of bikes from entry level training bikes to adult bikes, complete with storage, safety equipment and facilities to carry out simple repairs. Our ambition is to teach every pupils to be able to ride at a level appropriate to their ability and also teach pupils who are interested some bike maintenance skills.

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Sean Kelly

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## Gardening Project

We have made an effort to better utilise our fantastic outdoor space for learning opportunities throughout the pandemic. One area we have focused on is the school allotment. This has been a very popular project, with pupils growing a variety of vegetables in the raised beds. This is something we will look to further develop in the future.

## Parent Communication

We realise that this is an area we need to improve and will become a priority for us next year. To support better communication and engagement with parents and carers we intend to begin termly parents evenings and half termly reports to keep parents and carers informed as to how their young people are progressing. We recognise the importance of working together with parents/carers to best support our pupils and are determined to improve communication with school.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a new academic year with plenty of exciting developments.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Morgan

Principal



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