

**Date:** 27th April 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

**Application for a school place at Waverley Junior Academy (Y1 - Y6 places)**

I write to you following your recent application for a place at Waverley Junior Academy where you were made a conditional offer of a place for your child, subject to the Department for Education (DfE) entering into a funding agreement with the Aston Community Education Trust (ACET).

I can now advise that the DfE have formally notified Rotherham Local Authority (LA) that they will be entering into a funding agreement with ACET to sponsor Waverley Junior Academy.

As you will be aware, given the current Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic and government restrictions in place at this time, there is likely to be a delay to the school build project being completed by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 as scheduled. The DfE advised the LA and ACET that the funding agreement could only be signed for September 2020 opening if a suitable contingency plan was in place to address any delay to the school opening post 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020. I am pleased to inform you that the DfE accepted the contingency plan submitted by ACET and the LA.

We are currently working on the assumption that there could be a possible delay up to the end of October (half term), given current restrictions on site and supply chain issues at this present time.

The contingency plan in place for children who were made conditional offers of a place at Waverley Junior Academy for September 2020, is that buses will pick up children at a designated point at Waverley and take the children to Thurcroft Junior Academy (Thurcroft is one of the other members of the ACET family of academies within its Trust) until the new school building is handed over to ACET by the contractors.

It is difficult to determine exactly when handover of the building and site will occur at this current time, but as a contingency we are currently working with an assumption of an October 2020 handover.

As Year 1 – 6 offers at Waverley Junior Academy were conditional, your child remains on the roll of their current school until such time as they are enrolled at Waverley.

I would be grateful if you could email the LA's Admissions team at [admissions.enquiries@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:admissions.enquiries@rotherham.gov.uk) and advise if:

- You want to take up the offer of the place at Waverley Junior Academy from 1 September 2020 (given there is a contingency plan, suitable to DfE requirements, in place for any delay period to the new school opening beyond that date – as outlined above).
- You want to withdraw your application and conditional offer and your child will remain at their existing school.
- You have contacted your child's existing school to discuss options and your child will be staying at the school and transferring when Waverley Junior Academy opens.

I would be grateful if you could email the Admissions Team by **Friday 8 May 2020** to enable the necessary planning and arrangements to be put in place in relation to buses, liaison with schools / academies etc.

Yours sincerely



Dean Fenton  
Head of Service, Access to Education