

17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware the school implemented a new curriculum model in September for the Year 7 cohort. The idea was to ensure that students had some continuity of teacher and the same students in the majority of their lessons. The staffing of this ensured that the core subjects were taught by one teacher. Whilst there have been some successes, I feel that the academic rigour of having specialist teaching in each core area and the streaming of students to ensure the curriculum is better suited to their individual needs, outweighs the continuity of staff and students. As a result, I have made the decision to revert back to a more traditional secondary school system which will begin after the half term break. I want to ensure that Year 7 are getting the best education possible in the last half term and will not wait until September to maximise their learning potential.

As part of the transition to ensure the students are well equipped and ready for Year 8 we began some elements on the recent strike days, some of the content of those two days is below:

- Re-establishing what great, focused Year 8 learners look like in the classroom and around school
- Problem solving/team building activities in PE
- Literacy and numeracy tasks to check progress
- Reading age assessments
- Presentation skills
- Careers and aspirations

During those two days, we also trialled the streamed groups for English/Humanities and Maths/Science that will be in place after half term. Overall both days went well and there was a genuine excitement from the students.

Whilst I appreciate that some people may be fully in favour of the change and some others may not, the professional decision has been made and I firmly believe this will improve both the quality of education and the student's motivation in school.

All details around new timetables will be discussed with students before the half term break and new timetables will also be sent to parents no later than Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Huntington  
Principal