

17th December 2024

Year 7 teaching group changes

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please be aware that as of Monday 6th January, we will be making changes to all teaching groups in year 7. This means that the students that have been in your child's classes up till now as well as their classroom teacher will likely change.

So far, all classes have been taught in tutor groups. This was done to help them to settle into a new environment. Now they have been at the school for several months, we believe now is an appropriate time to make changes.

Your child's form group will remain the same but all subjects except Maths, PE and Technology will be affected. **Teaching groups will remain mixed ability outside of Mathematics** so the new classes are not indicative of any individual's ability or prior performance in a test - many other factors have been used.

Students will be given new timetables during form time on the first day when they return, but if you check the Arbor app you will be able to let them know what group they will be in and where they need to go in advance.

For some students, this may initially be unsettling. Please reassure them that this is not a punishment nor a reflection of something having happened. In secondary education it is necessary to make changes at times to teaching groups to improve their quality of education. As they get older and eventually go on to pick their options, such class changes will become normal. Avoid suggesting to them that change is not a good thing. We will review these classes again at the end of the academic year.

If you have any questions regarding these teaching group changes, please do not hesitate to get in contact. Academic reports will be sent home later this half term and there will still be an online parents evening later in the academic year.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Southby

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