



23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

**Re: COVID Safety - Amendments to Tutor and subject groupings**

As you will be aware school continually reviews the COVID arrangements we have in place to ensure they are robust to protect our pupils and staff. Following our latest review we have decided that in order to further reduce movement between lessons and support in restricting the number of close contacts pupils' encounter each day, we are proposing to alter some groupings in Year 8. We have already introduced stringent procedures to follow the COVID guidance in school through the introduction of hubs and zones, staggered starts, finishes and lunches. Although these plans have been well managed, we are keen to ensure that, where possible, we limit the volume of pupils needing to self-isolate should we encounter further positive cases.

As a strategy to support this, we are planning to reformat tutor groups to reflect the same teaching groups that pupils are in for the majority of their academic lessons. In order to do this we are aligning the top two sets and lower two sets in each half-year band to place pupils in tutor groups mirroring their best-fit set across teaching sets. This has already been done successfully in years 9, 10 and 11. This means that there will be limited movements to the sets and pupils will remain within their ability range. Subsequently pupils will have less cause to move between classrooms and be in contact with a reduced number of pupils without impacting on the quality of their education.

This will come into place after half term when your child will be issued with a revised timetable identifying their class teacher and room. This will be explained to pupils in more detail on their return to school after the half term.

If you have any concerns, please contact the year team or relevant department leader.

Yours faithfully,

*L Hanson*

Mrs L Hanson  
Headteacher

**RESPECT • ASPIRATION • DETERMINATION • INDEPENDENCE**

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