Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware, there have been a number of changes this academic year as we continue our relentless drive towards the highest standards; this is to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of our students. One system that has come under review is the structure of our pastoral care.

In 2010, after much research, we moved to the ‘Vertical Tutoring’ system. The system has had many positive results for students and there have been some examples of outstanding success. However, we now feel that the needs and progress of all of our students will be more appropriately met through ‘Horizontal Tutoring’. Therefore, we will be adopting this system from September - academic year 2015-16.

We appreciate that this change may cause concern for some students; therefore, there will be support for those who require it. However, our internal feedback was overwhelmingly in favour of a move to the horizontal system. We strongly feel that, for the students in our school, this system will allow us to effectively enhance the tracking, monitoring, evaluation and support of all of our young people, resulting in improved progress and outcomes. The school is now in a strong position to select the qualities of both systems and apply them to our day to day practice.

A move to the horizontal system has further benefits - I have only alluded to some within this letter. Please find attached an information document which may address frequently asked questions. We hope these will answer any queries you may have. Should you feel you would like further information in addition to these documents, an information evening will take place Wednesday 3rd June 2015, 6.00pm – 6.30pm in the Drama Studio.

Alternatively, you can send any questions or queries via email to Mr Leonard at Jleonard@boteler.org.uk.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Leonard

Assistant Headteacher – Pastoral Care