18th December 2014

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Year 7 Set Changes and Timetable amendments**

At the beginning of the academic year, students in Year 7 were placed into teaching groups based on the limited information we had available about their attainment and progress. We will soon be in possession of all the validated KS2 data and now have assessment data about their progress this term across a range of subjects. As a result we are undertaking a set review to ensure that all students are placed in the most suitable teaching group to enable maximum progress over the remainder of Year 7 and beyond. In January, as soon as we have the KS2 data in school, we will be reorganising teaching groups. There will be 5 sets which will be structured according to KS2 SATS and current progress. These are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Upper band | Lower band |
| B1 |  |
| B2 |  |
|  | T1 |
|  | T2 |
|  | T3 |

In addition to these setting changes, all Year 7 students will also benefit from a literacy focus lesson which will take the place of PSHE on their timetable. This change has been implemented in direct response to the OFSTED feedback linked to literacy levels impacting on overall student achievement and progress.

There are now 4 formal assessment points throughout the year so that we can track progress effectively and intervene where necessary to ensure students are on track to achieve.  These will be followed by reports to parents/carers so that you can see the progress your child is making.  In addition, departments will be conducting more regular informal assessments which will enable them to plan more effectively for progress. Based on these assessments and the progress your child is making, there will be scope for further movement between teaching groups. The formal assessment dates are in your School Handbook.  If you are new to the school and do not have one please let us know. It is also on the website.

Your child has aspirational progress targets based on the trajectory they should achieve from KS2 to KS4 to make good progress. Their targets should be on their individual subject books and in their planners. When we have the validated KS2 scores in school it is likely that some of these targets will change and you will be able to see any revised targets on your child’s next report.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Year 7 students and their families a Happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing all of our students again in 2015 after a restful holiday.

Yours faithfully,



B Scott-Herron

Headteacher