



Thursday 6 July 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers

This week students have moved into their new tutor group social area, have moved into their new toilet area and have moved tutor bases. We feel it is important to start getting students ready for the new school year in September by practising these new routines, now that the year 11s have left.

We also feel it is important to use our tutor time effectively to prepare all students for the school day but also to give them greater opportunities for success.

From September, the school day is being extended by 10 minutes- you have already received communication regarding this from Mr Dyke. This will mean that tutor time will be for 30 minutes and that the school day will finish at 3:10pm. This is in response to Government requirements but we welcome the additional 10 minutes in tutor time.

We will continue to spend a Monday having an assembly and spend Fridays celebrating students' successes.

Key Stage 3 will continue with Guided Reading Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday- we know how important it is for students to have exposure to language, to cultural ideas and to be able to follow and understand a text. There is a strong link between the ability to read and better academic results as well as opportunities in life.

Key Stage 4 however will spend Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday tutor time having additional and deliberate English or maths teaching based upon need. We value the 30 minutes and wish to give students in years 10 and 11 the opportunity to achieve even greater success in these areas, particularly aiming to support the very best outcomes at the end of year 11 which will then be compared to those achieved by students in schools across the country when our students are applying for college or university courses, apprenticeships or employment. For year 11s especially, the year does go quickly leading up to exams in May- we feel the opportunity to gain an additional hour and a half of learning time per week and to provide outstanding support with revision is worth taking.

To enable this to happen, there will inevitably have to be some changes to tutors. Key Stage 4 tutor groups will have English and Maths teachers as their tutors from September so we have had to make tutor changes throughout year groups.

Please be assured that your child's new tutor is excited to be taking your child through the next academic year.

Please also be assured that we are working hard to pass on information about your child to their new tutor so that they are in safe hands from September.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Granville
Deputy Headteacher