

PL/CL/2538

Y8 –04 10/11

11 July 2011

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Dear «Postal_title»

I am writing to inform you of some improvements that we will make to our tutorial system for next year.

Students entering Year 7, 8 and 9 will be in tutor groups that are significantly smaller than they currently are; each tutor group in Key Stage 3 will consist of approximately fifteen students compared with twenty six or twenty seven. This will allow our Personal Tutors to devote more individual attention towards students in their groups. They will develop a greater understanding of the students and be able to monitor their personal and academic development more closely. Students will be with their tutor from 8.30 – 9.00 each morning. This increased daily tutorial periods (30 minutes as opposed to 20 minutes) with a smaller group will allow this time to be used more effectively.

To enable this improvement, students moving from Year 8 – 9 will be placed in a different Personal Tutor group from September and students have been told of their new tutor. This is a change to the tutorial period only and will have no effect on teaching groups. While this is a change of routine for students, we have been very impressed by the maturity that the year group has shown so far and have no doubt that they will be able to adapt to this.

MrsLuck (Head of Year 8) has worked very closely with Miss Daffurn (Assistant Principal) in carefully considering the composition of these new groups. While it will never be possible to put students in groups of their choice, they will all be in groups with students they know well from the bands they are taught in. Students will stay in their new tutor group until the end of Year 11 and eventually the model of tutor groups of fifteen will be in every year group in the Academy.

This change will take effect from next week (week beginning 18 July) as we begin the new academic year during our last week of term. During this week we will operate on our new timetable with a start time of 8.30 and teaching time will be finishing each day at 3pm.

Should you have any queries regarding any of this, please telephone the switchboard and ask to speak to MrsLuck.

As the academic year draws to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the year. We are delighted at the development of our Year 8 students and are optimistic about their future progress. A significant part of this progress is down to your encouragement and support. The new term starts on Monday, 05 September, I hope you enjoy a relaxing summer break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Latham', with a stylized flourish at the end.

P Latham
Principal