

8 July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Mathematics Updates for September 2020

In previous years, we have contacted you at this time to inform you that the groupings of some students in Mathematics would change from September. Given the school closure and move to online learning we have made the decision to postpone these moves for most year groups until the autumn term.

Students in year 9 will still have some changes due to the introduction of an extra mainstream set on both halves of the year to accommodate the completion of the Purple Pathway course and a need to integrate these students into mainstream groups. This, in conjunction with the options choices of some students, has inevitably meant that student groupings have needed to change. It is important to ensure that students are taught in groups with peers who learn at similar attainment levels, and this has been the main focus of organising the new groups.

During the first half of the upcoming autumn term all students will be assessed in class. This will take the form of a mixture of self-assessment and teacher assessment. This will help us to identify topic areas that students have found difficult, and aid our future lesson planning, whilst also enabling us to assess whether the students' groupings remain appropriate for them. As such, following these assessments we will be looking at the groupings of students in each year group and making amendments where necessary. Set lists are produced after careful analysis of each student's performance and we can assure you each student is placed in the mathematics class where we feel their learning and progress will be maximised. For Year 10 and Year 11 students, this includes careful consideration of which GCSE examination tier we feel your child's performance will be maximised in.

We understand that individual students' learning experiences during the countrywide lockdown have been very different. We don't intend for any student to be further disadvantaged by not being able to access the online learning, that has been supported by teachers, during these difficult months. All online learning will remain accessible, to all students, throughout the summer holiday. We would encourage any student to take advantage of any opportunities to complete some of this work to minimise the impact on their progress. This should allow the transition back to a more normal school learning experience in September to run more smoothly.

Please do not hesitate to contact us in September if you have any queries regarding this.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Davis

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Miss D Nemeth

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Curriculum Leader for Key Stage 4 Mathematics & Curriculum Leader for Foundation Mathematics