22 May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

**End of Year Exams and Set Changes**

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new leadership team in English and Film Studies Faculty.

Ms Sarah Doyle, Head of Faculty; Ms Camilla Bourne, Deputy Head of Faculty, KS4 Coordinator and Acting Head of Film Studies; Mrs Jilly Rogers, KS3 Coordinator and Mr Steven Walsh, Coordinator for KS5.

Although it seems strange in May to be writing about the ‘end of the year’ yet we are surprisingly close to the end of the 2017/2018 academic year. This means we are entering exam season for KS3 and KS4. Students are being advised of exam dates and advised about what they need to revise - you may like to discuss this with them.

We would also like to advise that 2018/2019 class placements for the new academic year will be finalised before the end of term which is Friday 13 July. To clarify, English classes have a suffix of 1-4. Generally, 1-2 is the top stream, and 3-4 the next stream.

Therefore, we would like to advise the following to help students and their families understand class placements:

Students are moved from one stream to the other and that means a student in a 1 class may move into a 2, 3 or 4, and likewise, a student in a 4 class may move into a 3,2,1.

Students in Year 10 going into Year 11, will be assessed from their end of year exam on Monday 18 June and that will form 75% of their placement, with the remaining 25% based on the year’s assessments and ATL.

Students in Year 9 going into Year 10, will be assessed on the end of year exam Monday 4 June (a piece of Gothic Writing), a reading comprehension test which will count for 75% of their placement and their assessment grades from terms 1,2, and 3 will count for 25% towards their placement, in addition to their ATL (Attitude to Learning). If you have any queries about this process, please do not hesitate to get in contact with Ms Bourne; movement from KS3 will be done in close conjunction with Mrs Rogers.

Students in Years 7 will be writing an exam after half-term producing an autobiographical piece and reading comprehension; Year 8 will write an exam writing a persuasive letter and a reading comprehension. Again, these exam results will count for 75% towards their placement for the next academic year and their assessment grades from terms 1, 2, and 3 will count for 25% towards their placement, in addition to their ATL (Attitude to Learning). Please do not hesitate to get in contact with Mrs Rogers should you have any queries.
We believe that it is vital for students to be placed accurately, and fairly. Please note, we reserve the right to also, at times, consider placements in groups based on other needs if deemed necessary due to the professional opinion of our teachers. That said, we try to place students with transparency. The former (‘accurately’) is by looking at summative results and the efforts over an entire year. We hope by explaining this process, parents and carers are reassured that this is our practice.

If you would like to have this clarified, please do not hesitate to get in contact with either Mrs Rogers or Ms Bourne, and we ask that you put in the subject line class placement query 2018/2019.

We thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Doyle
Head of the English Faculty and AAHT