

July 4th 2016

Dear Parents /Carers

### **Re: Change to the Pastoral System**

Previously we have removed students in Years 11 to 13 from the vertical pastoral system where tutor groups consisted of students from Years 7 – 13. We took this decision so that their needs could be better met and this has benefited those year groups. It has also made the vertical system more difficult in terms of keeping siblings in the same house and has also reduced the frequency of opportunities for peer mentoring.

From September we are proposing that the current vertical tutoring / pastoral system is changed to a horizontal tutoring system which will be based on the year that students are in. We want to make this change now as we feel that the needs of individual students are best met within a year group setting as detailed below.

Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 will remain static years with static Heads of Year.

Years 8, 9 and 10 will rotate through these three years, each Head of Year will therefore move with their year group and their tutorial teams for three years.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Static / Move With Year</b>	<b>Proposed Head of Year</b>	<b>Proposed Leadership Team Link</b>
7	Static	Dr C Gardiner	Mrs R Ghale
8	Move with year group and team	Mrs D Etches	A Banbery
9	Move with year group and team	Miss D Simmonds	Miss R Cook
10	Move with year group and team	Mrs T Griffin	Mrs R Ghale
11	Static	Mrs A Devey	Mrs J Smith
12	Static	Mr A Banbery	Mr K Whittlestone
13	Static	Mr A Banbery	Mr K Whittlestone

#### **The benefits of this change are:**

- It is the most efficient way of meeting the needs of all of our students through all aspects of Academy life.

- This system provides each year's pastoral team with the best possible platform to track, monitor and provide tailored support to students.
- The system further supports learning and progress for classroom teachers and Heads of Faculties / Departments.
- Promotes high levels of effective communication across the Academy.
- Supports our drive towards the highest possible standards.
- Peer mentor teams can be appointed in each year and the Head of Year will have full control over this.
- Academic mentoring can be tailored to meet the specific needs of the year group.

All students will continue to be placed in one of the four houses – Hercules, Orion, Perseus and Zodiac and inter – house activities / competitions will be organised throughout the year as previously.

If you have any questions about the new pastoral system or if you need any further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Keith Whittlestone  
Principal