

18 December 2025

Dear parents and carers

As we approach the new year, we are making some changes to support student's progress. From Monday 12 January students will move into new groupings for English, Maths, and Science, whilst staying in their current groups for Humanities and Creative subjects.

Over the course of this term, we have taken time to get to know your young person, reviewed SKI assessments, and examined their work in detail. Using this information, we have created new groupings designed to ensure that every student can make excellent progress.

In each subject, there will be a Fast Track group for students ready to move at an accelerated pace. All other groups will continue to follow our mixed-ability teaching approach, which offers significant benefits, including:

- Opportunities for collaboration and peer support
- Inclusive learning that provides challenge and support for all students
- Development of essential skills such as communication, resilience, and problem-solving

You will be able to view any changes and new classes on Arbor from 2 January 2026. Note that Parent-Teacher meetings in January will be held with your young person's teacher from this term.

We appreciate that changes to groupings can cause some anxiety for students; this is a normal part of secondary education, and we are experienced in supporting young people through these transitions. Should you require further support, please do not hesitate to contact the Year 7 Team.

Best wishes

**Mr M Lockhart**

Deputy Headteacher

