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David Samson Headteacher

A Church of England Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been impressed by the way that our Y11 have come back from the summer break and begun the final year of their studies for their GCSEs. It is clear that some students are making excellent use of GCSEpod – with 3,593 revision 'pods' accessed to this point by Y11 since the start of September. As an example, some students had already independently accessed GCSEpod videos more than 100 times at the end of September. This is a very pleasing sign of how seriously this year group are going to take their academic studies.

In our core subjects at KS4 the students are organised into groups according to their ability. This is the case in English, Maths and Science lessons. This helps departments target resources and teaching – whilst also enabling individual teachers to adapt the content of their lessons to the needs of the students in front of them. The core subjects will be running some assessments with their students in the weeks to come. The assessments will be based on learning from the full GCSE courses so far. The purpose of this is to check that our students are in the right places to maximise their learning.

If a student has demonstrated over time that their rate of learning is not matched to their class peers, then we will look to adjust their group. A student will only be moved from one group to another in their core subjects if their test scores in the last three assessments are significantly above or below their peers in their current group. In addition to this, attention will be given to a student's attainment profile when they joined Trinity and their target grade; this may result in student who has underperformed being given access to intervention sessions whilst staying in their present group. Any one group change in one core area will not affect the classes in your child's other core subjects, or their option subjects. Students will be able to ask their individual teachers for information about upcoming assessments. If you wish to receive any further subject specific information, please contact the appropriate Head of Department.

Although the Maths department have already communicated this to parents, we wanted to make it clear that a consistent approach will be maintained across all the core departments.

Yous faithfully,

A Hopkins (Mr)
Deputy Headteacher

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