

4th July 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to inform you about some important and exciting changes we are making to our school's pastoral structure for the upcoming academic year. These changes have been carefully considered and are designed to ensure our pastoral provision remains first-class, fostering even more integrated teams and fluid communication to best support all our children.

Why the Change?

Currently, our school operates with five distinct year groups, each led by a Head of Year, with separate pastoral and behaviour teams. While this structure has served us well, we believe that by evolving our approach, we can enhance the support networks around our students. The new structure aims to create a more cohesive and responsive system, allowing for seamless support across both their pastoral needs and their academic progress.

Our New Structure: Lower and Upper School

From the start of the new academic year, the school will be divided into two key phases:

- Lower School: This will initially consist of students in Years 7, 8, and 9.
- Upper School: This will initially consist of students in Years 10 and 11. Year 9 students will transition into the Upper School once they have made their option subject choices later in the year.

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New Roles and Responsibilities

We are also delighted to announce the following key appointments within this new structure:

- Mr Sansom, currently our Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour, will become the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for the Upper School. He will be supported by Mrs Chapman, who will take on the vital role of Upper School Lead.
- Mrs King, currently our Assistant Headteacher for Safeguarding and Pastoral, will become the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for the Lower School. She will be supported by Mr Le Marrec, who will become the Lower School Lead.

Crucially, our dedicated staff who currently work in the pastoral team and the behaviour team will merge into one integrated team. This combined team will work closely with Mrs Chapman and Mr Le Marrec, continuing to provide outstanding support to our students in managing their behaviour and pastoral needs, and monitoring their academic progress.

Furthermore, Mr Holmes (previously Head of Year 8) and Mr Woods (previously Head of Year 10) will be taking on new leading roles across the school, which will positively impact all students. Mr Woods will become Head of Personal Development and Mr Holmes will become the Community Relations Manager.

Miss Keinzley, formerly Head of Year 9, is taking on a new role as the school's Intervention Lead. In this capacity, she will coordinate and lead early help interventions for students requiring additional support. Miss Keinzley has also completed the Thrive Practitioner qualification, and the school plans to adopt the Thrive Approach for student support starting in September.

Who to Contact

Regarding any concerns you may have about your child, the point of contact will remain consistent in the first instance: your child's form tutor. Please note that, due to changes in days worked by part-time staff and new staff who have started this current academic year, your child may have a new form tutor for September. If any changes have been made, we will inform students ahead of September. If the matter requires further attention, you will then contact the Upper School Lead (Mrs Chapman) or the Lower School Lead (Mr Le Marrec), depending on your child's year group.

We are confident that these changes, carefully thought through with your children's best interests at heart, will further strengthen our commitment to providing an outstanding and supportive educational experience for every student.

Thank you for your continued support as we embark on this exciting new phase.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C. Elliott', written in dark ink.

Claire Elliott
Headteacher