

To: Parents/Carers of Year 12 students

Our Ref: 8731015

15 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Pastoral support changes in the sixth form; Year 12 progress data; end of term

I hope you are keeping well as well as enter the festive period. As we reach the end of the first academic term in sixth form, I am writing to you with information about some changes to the Sixth Form team.

After 12 years, our Pastoral Support and Safeguarding Officer in the sixth form, Mrs Berry, will be leaving us at the end of the term. It's impossible to express how much of an impact the support and guidance Mrs Berry has given over the years has had on the sixth form and the lives of its students. Although our current group of Year 12 students have only been with us for a few months, Mrs Berry has already been able to help and support so many of them, and those of you who have had other sons or daughters come through our Sixth Form will no doubt also be very aware of the fantastic work she has done over the years with students in Year 12 and Year 13. I'm sure you will join me in thanking her for all of her hard work and wish her the best in the future.

From January, we will be joined by a new colleague – Miss Stephenson – who will take over the Sixth Form Pastoral Support role. Miss Stephenson is looking forward to getting to know the students in sixth form and their parents, so from January please contact her with any questions of queries or for any help or support you or your sons/daughters may need.

Mrs Whittaker, who is one of our sixth form LRC supervisors, is also leaving us at the end of term after many years of supporting students as they use the sixth form study room facilities. I'd like to thank her for all her work and the support she has given the sixth form. From January, Mrs Whittaker will be replaced by a new colleague, Mrs Allen, who will join the LRC to work alongside Mrs Macdougall.

This week, we have released the first set of Year 12 student progress data. It is accessible via the SIMS app. The data provides students with a current end-of-course estimated grade for each subject, alongside attitude to learning grades, independent learning grades, and details of minimum target grades (calculated from GCSE outcomes.) Starting this week, students will discuss the data during their one-to-one progress meetings with their form tutor or designated subject teacher, and targets and actions will be agreed. Should you have any questions about any of the data, please contact the sixth form or the relevant subject teachers.

Finally, I'd like to thank all parents/carers of Year 12 students for their support during this term. Despite unusual and challenging circumstances, Year 12 students have made an excellent start to their time in

sixth form and have continually impressed me with their positive approach to their learning and to the wider sixth form community. This has been demonstrated in particular by the wonderful response by Year 12 students to our Christmas foodbank appeal, which has seen us inundated with donations to this important cause.

I wish you all the best for Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Hobbs', written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr N. Hobbs
Director of Sixth Form (Year 12)