

RWD/RBA

5<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### Changes to the Curriculum from September 2020

As a highly successful Multi Academy Trust, we continue to review the curriculum delivered from Year 7 to 13 across our secondary Academies. It is essential that the curriculum is ambitious, remains relevant to meet the needs and interests of all learners and prepares our young people to become highly employable, successful and confident adults. From September 2020, the Academy is set to introduce a new curriculum model that will ensure that all students have access to a broad and balanced offer of subjects and learning experiences.

In the new model, the Academy will teach the Key Stage 3 curriculum over Years 7, 8 and 9. This will ensure that all students are taught a broad range of subjects in depth as exemplified by the National Curriculum. These changes will ensure that we provide a solid foundation for all students across a wide range of curriculum areas in preparation for their option choices at the end of Year 9. The Key Stage 4 curriculum will be delivered over Years 10 and 11 and will provide even greater choice than in previous years.

Our revised seven-year curriculum offer will provide a common core of subjects and experiences and enable students to also specialise to follow their interests, develop their skills and provide equal access to positive progression routes. All students irrespective of their ability or special educational needs will have equal access to the curriculum. The planned move to a three-year Key Stage 3 will allow students more time to prepare for the specialisation that takes place at GCSE. As well as achieving excellent academic progress, the new offer will have a great emphasis on developing individual character, promoting lifeskills and an understanding of the wider world.

Many other schools have adopted this model, and whilst this in itself is not a reason to change, it means that our students will not be disadvantaged when competing against other school leavers in the region.

Please be assured that we will be in regular communication with you and all students as we roll out the new curriculum model. Our current Year 9 – 11 students are already studying their Key Stage 4 options and therefore will not be affected by these changes. I can advise you however that it will mean that there will be no options process in Year 8 this year.

If you require any further information on the curriculum moving forwards, please contact Mr. Taylor, Trust Senior Vice Principal at the Academy. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours faithfully



Mr R. Wood  
Principal

Success for today, prepared for tomorrow.