

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to our Year 7 students, who have successfully completed their first module at Pembroke. This milestone marks a smooth and positive transition into secondary school life. It has been a pleasure to witness our students settling into new routines, forming friendships, and beginning their academic journey with passion and courage.

Changes to teaching groups

At Pembroke, all Year 7 students begin with their lessons taught in form groups. This structure enables early peer relationships and helps establish a strong sense of House identity. It also provides staff with valuable opportunities to observe and assess students' academic abilities, identify any areas where support may be needed, and recognise individual strengths. Based on these observations and assessments during the first module, staff have completed the process of assigning students to teaching groups that best align with their academic needs, ensuring each child receives the appropriate level of support and challenge.

It is important to know that your child's form group will remain unchanged, and they will continue to begin each day with their current form tutor.

How we decide teaching groups

As we move into the next phase of learning, students will transition from their current form-based teaching groups to new teaching groups tailored to their individual academic profiles. These groupings are carefully informed by a broad range of assessment data, including SATs, CATs, NGRT reading tests, subject-specific assessments and teachers' professional judgement. This approach ensures that every student is placed in an environment that supports their continued growth and success.

It is important to emphasise that these teaching groups are determined solely on academic considerations and are not influenced by behaviour or other non-academic factors. Groupings are agreed upon collaboratively across all subject areas, with the full involvement of our Heads of House, to ensure consistency and fairness for all students.

What's changing and what is staying the same?

For many Year 7 students, their timetable and teachers will remain the same, though they may have new classmates. Others will move to a new timetable with different teachers. All students will receive their updated timetables on Thursday 6th November. To support a smooth transition, form tutors, Heads of House, and our Inclusion Officers will be available to provide guidance and reassurance to any

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students who may feel uncertain about the changes. The new timetable will also be accessible via the SIMs App from Thursday 6th November, allowing parents and carers to review and discuss the updates at home. The new timetable will then begin on Monday 10th November.

Ongoing reviews

Teaching groups are reviewed at the end of each module to ensure they continue to meet the evolving needs of our learners. As such, you may notice further adjustments to your child's groupings throughout their time at Pembroke. These changes reflect our ongoing commitment to providing a dynamic and responsive educational experience that supports every student's progress.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

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Mrs S Warnock
Assistant Headteacher