



Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Timetable Changes in Year 7

I hope this letter finds you well and that your son or daughter is still enjoying their first few weeks at Acton High. As we approach the end of the first half term I wanted to notify you of some potential changes to some of your son or daughter's timetables. As you will be aware, all year 7 students sat baseline tests for every subject in the week beginning 26th September. The reason behind the tests was to establish your son or daughter's starting point in each subject. Before half term, you will receive a report for your son or daughter telling you the results of each baseline tests along with a target for each subject. These results also determine how some subjects organise their groups:

English will be taught in mixed ability classes with a policy of teaching at the top end and differentiating downwards.

Maths will set classes based on ability but include mini tests throughout the year that give students the opportunity to move into a more suitable set, up or down.

Science will set classes according to their Assessment Objective 3 *colour*, based on our Colour Progression Pathways (CPP). This helps the department distinguish between the classes as to which outcomes they start on, enabling teachers to stretch and challenge every single student, no matter the starting point.

Humanities do not strictly set however they do have ability groupings (top, middle and developing). The top classes would include students with a range of ability based on the top end of the CPPs, for example students who achieved red and blue learning outcomes in the baseline test.

Other curriculum areas have mixed ability classes due to how their subject is taught. For example, in **Design Technology** and **PE** there is a carousel that students follow. This encourages students to work with each other whilst learning and experiencing a range of subjects with those curriculum areas.

We appreciate however that students work towards their End of Key Stage 3 targets at different rates. To ensure your son or daughter is making the expected amount of progress, the teachers will use the Colour Progression Pathways to monitor progress on a regular basis. Therefore an element of fluidity with setting is necessary, to ensure students are stretched and challenged but also carefully supported if the work becomes too difficult.

Your son or daughter will receive their new timetables before they break up for half term. This may mean they have a new teacher for the rest of this year.

There will be an opportunity to discuss set changes at the Core Parent's Evening on Wednesday 2nd November. If you have any immediate queries please contact the relevant CTL by email as below:

Teacher initial and surname followed by @actonhigh.ealing.sch.uk .

Yours faithfully

Mr D Summers

Assistant Headteacher for Learning, Progress and Outcomes Y6-8