

26 November 2020

Dear Parents and carers of Year 8 pupils

Changes to teaching arrangements in Year 8 – November 30 2020

Under usual circumstances, pupils in Year 8 are taught in pathways for English, Languages and Maths. During the academic year, we regularly monitor the progress of all pupils and we are able to designate a pathway that best suits the individual needs of each pupil and in doing so offer the best possible support in achieving their full potential. Since September, whilst under COVID-19 safety measures, classes in year 8 have been taught in tutor groups with mixed ability differentiated resources following the recommended guidelines and the school's risk assessments.

In this important final year at Selwood and in preparation for the transition to the next stage of learning, we feel it is very important to re-introduce the pathway system to best support our young people to work at a pace that is challenging for them. This change will happen from Monday 30 November. Pupils will now join their class in their specified pathway group for each of these three subjects. If there has been a change to the pathway group since your child was in Year 7 you will be notified of this in a separate individual communication.

To ensure that this move is done safely and in line with the DFE guidance to schools the following additional safety measures will be in place:

- Any additional movement of Year 8 pupils will only take place within the Year 8 designated zone to ensure the required social distancing from other year groups is maintained.
- Year 8 pupils have been advised to wear facemasks whilst waiting in the corridor unless they have a medical exemption. Staff will be actively reminding them to do so.
- Pupils will sanitise their hands as they enter any of the classrooms in the C block and will wash them at other suitable times.
- Cleaning of regular contact areas such as table-tops and chairs will take place after each lesson where pupil attendance has changed due to Pathways. This cleaning will be undertaken by the subject teacher prior to the children entering the room.
- Pupils will be required to maintain 2 metres distance from all staff at all times.
- Pupils will not remain in corridors for any lengthy period of time to ensure close contact is not resulting.
- Pupils in Year 8 have 3 lesson per week in each of these subjects. It will be at these times, on 9 occasions per week that these additional measures will take place.
- When remaining in their tutor groups the additional cleaning is not essential.

'Let your light shine before others' Matthew 5 v 16

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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility - Selwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment

If you have any further questions regarding these arrangements please do not hesitate to contact me
Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Broad', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adam Broad
Deputy Head Teacher