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**St Michael's**  
Catholic Academy

**Head Teacher:** Clare Humble

**Deputy Head(s):** Marc Scott, Clare Carey  
& Matthew McAuley

**BHCET CEO:** Stuart McGhee

**BHCET Chair of Directors:** Yvonne Coates

12 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to inform you of an important development for our current Year 8 students as they prepare to move into Year 9 in September 2026.

From September, we will be increasing the number of form classes in the year group from the current structure of six, to a total of seven forms. This change has been carefully planned and is rooted in our ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality education and support for every student. To enable us to do this, we have also reassigned some students to a different form.

### **Why are we making this change?**

The move to seven form groups will enable us to reduce the size of each form class. Smaller groups allow staff to get to know students even more effectively, both academically and pastorally. With fewer students in each group, teachers can tailor their approach more precisely to individual needs, ensuring that all learners are appropriately challenged and supported.

Smaller class sizes help foster stronger relationships between staff and students, leading to clearer expectations, better communication, and a more focused learning environment across the year group. Tutors will have more time to support students' wellbeing, monitor progress closely, and intervene quickly where needed.

Year 9 is a crucial stage in any students' education, as they begin to consider and select their GCSE options. This transition requires maturity, independence, and informed decision-making. The new structure will allow us to better prepare students for this important stage by providing more personalised guidance on subject choices and encouraging greater independence and responsibility for learning. We are confident that this change will create a stronger foundation for success as students move into their Key Stage 4 journey.

### **What happens next?**

Students will be informed of their new form groups in due course, and we will ensure that the transition is managed carefully to support all students in settling positively into the new structure from September.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this change further, please do not hesitate to contact either myself Mr Scott, Mr Hall or Miss Dunning, the Pastoral Leaders, who will be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Scott'.

**Mr Scott**  
Deputy Headteacher



*Act Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with your God*