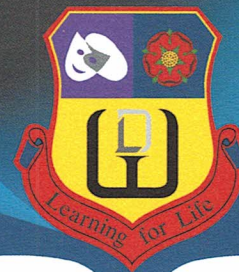


# WALTON-LE-DALE HIGH SCHOOL



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HEADTEACHER James Harris | [head@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk)

18<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Now that we have completed a full half term since the year 7 students started with us, we have reviewed the groupings for all year 7 students across English, Mathematics, Science and Modern Foreign Languages and changes to these groupings have taken place from today.

Whilst students are initially grouped in these subjects when they start at Walton-le-Dale, these groups are based on a limited amount of data provided by the primary schools. As such there are often students who are initially placed in a group that is not best suited to support them and this process is designed to ensure that students are well matched in their groups based on their current ability level in each subject, and compared to the other students in the year group.

To make the decision on which groups the students are placed in we look at the KS2 SAT results, the results of the GL assessment programme that all year 7 students undertake in the first few weeks in school, plus the professional judgements of the staff in lessons based on students' classwork and in-class assessments. All of this evidence combines to give a much more accurate picture of each student's current ability than we have initially in September.

Each subject area has independent groups and so a student in a high ability set in English may also be in a middle ability set in Maths for example. It is important to stress that these groupings are reviewed regularly, and there is the ongoing possibility of students moving between groups where they demonstrate that they are working above or below the level of their assigned group in each subject area.

Where students are particularly able in one subject and less able in another we organise the banding of each half of the year to allow the student to access the higher sets in their strong subject. This may result in them being placed in a slightly higher set than usual in their weaker subject, but in this case additional support is provided to support them in this.

Should you have any further questions or concerns please contact the school and they will direct your query to the appropriate department.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Withers  
Assistant Headteacher