13th January 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Following PP1 (Progress Point 1: our collection of assessment data) in December, we have reviewed the groupings for Year 9, ahead of Key Stage 4 and have made some changes to ensure that all students are in groups where we believe they will make the most progress over the coming months, leading up Year 10 when they start their GCSE courses.

This means that some students have moved classes in order to further enhance their learning and progress. All core subjects have considered where they believe each individual student would be best placed, to enhance their focus, attitude to learning and development of knowledge and skills. These decisions have been based upon students’ Key Stage 2 Data; Data for the Advent Term, as well as teacher assessment and professional judgements from Class Teachers and Heads of Department.

Students will receive their new timetables on Monday 20th January and the changes will take effect from this time. Following this change, groups will be more evenly distributed in size which should further aid students’ concentration and engagement.

Then, in September 2025, the Year 10 groups will then be reduced in size since we will be moving from 4 classes in the year group to 5 classes in the year group which, again, should enable even greater personalisation and support from staff with smaller class sizes.

As always, classes are regularly reviewed and changes can be made termly until the Lenten term in Year 11.

If you have any questions or queries about group changes in a specific subject, please contact the relevant Head of Department as below:

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| --- | --- |
| **Subject:** | **Head of Department and Email Address:** |
| English | Miss Elliott: [melliott@sph.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:melliott@sph.srscmat.co.uk) |
| Maths | Mr Taylor: [mtaylor@sph.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:mtaylor@sph.srscmat.co.uk) |
| Science | Mrs Birkitt: [jabirkitt@sph.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:jabirkitt@sph.srscmat.co.uk)  Mrs Knowles: [kknowles@sph.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:kknowles@sph.srscmat.co.uk) |

Alternatively, if you have any questions regarding the changes as a whole, please contact me in the usual way: [kcox@sph.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:kcox@sph.srscmat.co.uk)

We hope that you can understand the rationale for these changes and continue to support your child in their learning throughout the completion of KS3 and entry into KS4.

Yours sincerely,

Kerrie Cox

Senior Assistant Headteacher

St Philip Howard Catholic Voluntary Academy