4 March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Our Year 7 Group Tutors are excited to meet their tutees face-to-face on the morning of Wednesday 10 March. We have extended that morning’s registration period by an hour to allow extra time for students to spend in these groups.We are reverting to our House system, in which all of the students in each Tutor Group are from the same school House. A Tutor Group is an entirely different group from the class that students are taught in. Their Group Tutor, Head of House and the rest of St Wilfrid’s teaching and support staff will guide and support each student as they re-adapt to the routines and systems of school life, reaffirm friendships and build new relationships. Our Houses are named after Northern Saints: Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert, Hilda and Margaret Clitherow. We look forward to helping nurture your children to develop their many God-given gifts and talents.

If a student has any concern they should seek their Group Tutor as their first port of call - the Group Tutor will lead collective worship with the students at the start of each day, register the students, ensure they are familiar with and understand the daily expectations and that they plan their time appropriately. If parents / carers wish to contact school regarding any aspect of their child’s education, please get in touch with their Head of House.

In December, you were informed that we planned to move from mixed ability teaching groups to classes where students were grouped with others of a similar ability. This is the usual practice at St Wilfrid’s, enabling high quality differentiation, but we delayed the setting process by a term due to the effects of Covid-19 and the alternative transition arrangements. Because of the latest, national lockdown, the proposed class changes were postponed until school reopened. I can confirm that Year 7 students will be joining their new class sets upon the return to school on Wednesday 10 March. Teachers have shared knowledge and context of students with colleagues, ensuring that students are supported academically and pastorally from the outset. Please rest assured that our revised curriculum is devised to enable rapid progress and we will keep a keen, caring eye on each and every student in the school to ensure they’re safe, happy and learning. We cannot wait to resume teaching in the classroom and hope our students are looking forward to their return.

Student protocols and an updated risk assessment are available on our website (<https://www.st-wilfrids.org/our-school/letters-for-parents/>). Please spend some time ensuring your child is familiar with these before they return to school.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Logan

Acting Deputy Headteacher Pastoral