

NSH/CCH

22 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

YEAR 7 RE-GROUPING MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2020

You will be aware that we are re-grouping our Year 7 teaching groups in some of our subject blocks. We have made a small number of changes to our teaching groups. We have aimed to mix our students within their bands in subjects such as English and Maths whilst retaining their current tutor group and form tutor.

Please find attached a copy of your child's new timetable and teachers, which will take effect from Monday 2 November. The following information explains what is changing and what is staying the same for your child's timetable.

- Year 7 form tutor groups are remaining the same for the rest of the academic year. There are four or five tutor groups in each band. All Bands (J, P & S) will remain as they are. There will be no movement of students between bands, just within.
- Mixed ability groups are being created in the English block of subjects (English, Geography, History & MFL) which is 11 lessons per week. Your child will be allocated French, Spanish or Mandarin. Our more able students in MFL pick up a second language in Year 9. Your child will therefore be in a mixed-ability teaching group composed of students from the four or five tutor groups in your child's band.
- We are setting our Maths & Science block of subjects (which also incorporates Computing) using the Quantitative CAT scores. These are most associated with aptitude in Maths & Science. This is 9 lessons per week. Your child will therefore be in a setted teaching group composing of students from the four or five Tutor groups in your child's band.
- The Arts block of subjects (Cz, Mu, Pa, Rd, RE) & the Technology block of subjects (Ar, Dt, Fd) which are 8 lessons per week in total, will remain taught as form tutor groups for the time being.
- Practical PE lessons are starting straight after half term and will be gender split based upon 2/3 form tutor groups. The information below details specific information regarding PE lessons.

On the days that your child has PE on their timetable they must attend school in their PE kit with their normal uniform jumper and coat. Additional tops for PE should be carried in their school bag. Students should wear their trainers, not studded boots. They will also need to bring their reading book with them, as in the case of very poor weather some lessons may

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need to return to the classroom. We have three indoor teaching areas and up to eight classes timetabled at any one time.

Jesmond Park Academy PE kit is as follows;

Black/red badged rugby top or Black/red badged polo shirt

Sturdy trainers (not boots, plimsolls or fashion/leisure shoes)

Plain black shorts

Plain red football socks

Optional—Red/black fleece top

Optional—Black base layer top

Optional—Black tracksuit bottoms

We are hopeful that extra-curricular activities will return in the near future dependent on school and specific sport's governing body return to play guidance. We will update the children in school as soon as these opportunities become available.

We are of course following government guidance in all areas of school and as soon as this allows we intend returning to a more traditional timetable of lessons; unfortunately the timeframe for this is out of our hands.

Year 7 Assessment week takes place during the week beginning Monday 9 November. We have already written to you with details about this. You will receive a grade card before the Christmas break which will have information such as end of year teacher assessment (the grade that your child's teacher thinks your child will achieve by the end of Year 7) and an end of year target. There will also be a refresh of the underpinning performance grades.

We will review all of our groupings during set change week which is straight after the Christmas break.

If you need any further information please contact Mr Smith (Head of Year 7) or your child's form tutor.

Yours faithfully



M N Holmes
Director of Student Progress



Mrs C Walker
Director of Key Stage 3