



1st September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Changes to Science Teaching Groups

We are writing to inform you of an upcoming change to the organisation of Science classes for students currently assigned to Sets **3–8**.

From the start of the new academic year, these classes will move from attainment-based sets to **mixed-ability teaching groups**. This change follows careful consideration of current educational research, departmental experience, and our commitment to ensuring the best possible outcomes for all students.

Mixed-ability classes provide opportunities for students to learn alongside a wider range of peers, encouraging collaboration, discussion, and the development of confidence in their scientific understanding. Evidence suggests that this approach can support high levels of progress for students across the attainment range when teaching is appropriately planned and differentiated.

Please be assured that:

1. Teachers will continue to provide appropriate support and challenge for all learners.
2. Lessons will include differentiated tasks and questioning to meet the needs of individual students.
3. Student progress will continue to be monitored closely through regular assessment.
4. High-attaining students will continue to be stretched and challenged.
5. Students requiring additional support will receive guidance and scaffolding to help them succeed.

This change affects **Sets 3–8 only** and has been designed to create an inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive and achieve their potential in Science.

We appreciate that parents and carers may have questions about this change. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Science Department through the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Debrah
Associate Assistant Principal – Science