



Huntcliff School

An Academy for Success

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Date 4/4/19

Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of our ongoing school improvement strategy, we have conducted a review of our curriculum offer and provision. As a result of this review and having considered the latest educational thinking with regards to curriculum provision, the decision has been taken to revert back to a three-year key stage 3 / two-year key stage 4 provision model.

The new reformed 9-1 GCSE examinations are embedded within the curriculum and consequently with their requirement for a greater depth of pre-learning and knowledge, we feel that it is now appropriate to provide more time for students to develop this greater depth of knowledge and understanding, which will provide a stronger foundation upon which to progress onto GCSE.

In addition, the increased study time at key stage 3 and careers guidance will provide students with a better awareness of what is required to study a particular subject at key stage 4. This will enable students to develop a greater maturity in their learning and make more informed option choices when the time comes.

The reformed GCSE qualifications have been designed to be delivered over two years and a move back to a two-year GCSE programme will reduce the amount of time students have to retain and recall information in readiness for their final exams. This is an issue that a lot of students have struggled with whilst studying their GCSEs over a three year-period.

The new curriculum provision will come into effect from September 2019, which means that students who are currently in Year 8 will not have to choose their GCSE options until they are in Year 9.

Parents/carers will be invited to the Year 9 Options Evening which will take place in May 2020. Further information regarding this event and the options process will be issued in due course.

In readiness for the new provision and in light of the outcomes of the recent Y8 exams there will be some set changes where it is appropriate to do so. This will come into effect after the Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Patrick Daley
Headteacher

