



September 2016

RE: Year 10 & 11 English Groups

Dear Parent / Carer

There have been some changes to the groups lists this year and if it has affected your child, you might be wondering why these changes have been made.

Firstly, the school has moved from six sets at Key Stage Four to eight, which meant that there would be some automatic and unavoidable changes to group lists.

Consequently, I decided to create two middle groups of equal ability. Therefore, there is a set one, two middle set 2 groups and a set 4. Students who have moved from set 2 to set 3, for example, have not moved down, but moved across. Therefore, the expectations of set 2 and 3 are the same and the teaching will be at the same level but with the advantage of smaller classes. All students sit the same examination; there are no tiers.

In summary, the designations of sets 1 to 4 on the students' timetables are purely for whole school administrative purposes, whilst the English department recognizes three sets according to progress and ability. I appreciate that this might initially seem confusing but the easiest way to understand the groupings is to simply think of as set 3 as another set 2.

Yours sincerely
Mr C Matcham
Head of English