



4th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well and that your child has had a restful and enjoyable summer break. As we begin the new academic year, I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our Year 10 students and their families as they embark on the exciting journey of Key Stage 4.

Following a thorough review of our Year 11 summer results and feedback from the exam boards, we have made some important curriculum changes to better support our students and maximise their outcomes. While many of our students worked incredibly hard, overall results in some areas fell below our expectations. The feedback we received highlighted that certain subject choices may not be best aligned with the strengths and needs of our learners.

As a result, we have made the decision to switch our Year 10 students from **Animal Care** to **Travel and Tourism**. This change is based on several key factors:

- **Strong performance** in Travel and Tourism among our Year 11 students this summer
- **Staff expertise** and deep understanding of the assessment criteria in this subject
- The ability to connect the Travel and Tourism curriculum to the real-world interests and experiences of our students.

In addition, we have now moved all Year 10 students to the BTEC Business Studies pathway. Previously, some students chose the GCSE route while others selected BTEC; this change ensures consistency across the cohort. The decision is supported by the fact that BTEC Business Studies achieved the highest results across the school in the summer exams. We believe the BTEC qualification offers the best opportunity for our students to succeed, with a curriculum that is engaging, relevant, and well-supported by our experienced teaching team.

Year 10 Parent Information Evening

To support you and your child with these changes and the transition into GCSEs, we will be holding a **Year 10 Welcome to GCSE Parent Information Evening** on **Thursday 11th September at 5:00pm**. This will be an opportunity to hear more about the curriculum, meet key

staff, and ask any questions you may have. We strongly encourage all parents and carers to attend.

We understand that curriculum changes can raise questions, and we are committed to supporting all students through this transition. Our staff are fully prepared to ensure a smooth start and to help every student thrive in their new subjects.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes



Annabel Stoddart

Headteacher