



## PARENT BULLETIN

### FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

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#### School Structures

We have had some queries this week regarding how students are placed in sets throughout the school, so I shall try to clarify for you, but please get in touch with Mr Scrivener if you have any questions. If you are at all concerned with your child's experience in lessons, regardless of set, please do let us know.

#### Post 16

Post 16 courses are generally of a size that there is only one class of each subject depending on how many students choose each subject and these are generally very small, often less than ten students.

#### Key Stage 4

Setting arrangements have not changed. In core subjects, students are assigned to classes with students of similar ability, particularly where there are tiered entry papers at GCSE, this ensures that students are able to be prepared for the correct content for the paper they are likely to sit. For options subjects, the classes are set based upon which students opt for each subject, as with the vast majority of schools this results in classes containing a range of abilities.

#### Key Stage 3

Classes now broadly mirror the arrangements at Key Stage 4. In English and Maths students are grouped with other students at a similar level in that subject. Students are in a mixed group for most of their other lessons other than a small number of subjects where we make groups smaller, for example Art.

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#### Parent Forum 1

The first Parent Forum meeting of this academic year will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 between 5pm and 6pm. This meeting will focus on assessment and reporting; how your child will be assessed throughout the academic year and how this will be reported to parents. If possible, please let school Reception know if you will be attending.

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#### SIMS Parent App

We have now launched the SIMS Parent App. You should have received a letter (given to students and emailed) and instructions on how to register, followed by an email invitation. If you haven't received the email invitation, please check your junk mail folder. If you have any concerns please email us at [itsupport@marshacademy.org.uk](mailto:itsupport@marshacademy.org.uk). The App will enable you to view information that we store within our computer system in school – items such as contact details, timetables, attendance, assessment, achievement and behaviour information.

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#### Year 11 Parents' Information Evening

Parents / carers of students in Year 11 have received an invitation to attend an information evening on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November to discuss how to support exam preparation at home and what strategies we are using in school to ensure students make as much progress as possible. Please return the reply slip attached to the letter as quickly as possible.

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#### Early Closure

A reminder that the Academy will be closing at 1pm on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Bus companies have been informed and have amended times, students travelling on Stagecoach services will get public buses.

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#### Winter PE Kit

With inclement weather approaching a reminder about winter PE kit. The school policy states that in addition to the normal PE kit students may wear the optional Marsh Academy winter kit or a plain black sweatshirt.

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#### Diary Dates

Y11 Exams Evening - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
Early Closure 1pm – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
Open Day – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
Parent Forum 1 - Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019  
End of Term 1 - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

