

Headteacher: Dr. J Bartlett – NPQH, PGCE, D.Phil, M.Chem **Specialisms:** Mathematics

JAB/CA

12th July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Changes to the curriculum model

I write to inform you of a necessary change to the curriculum which will be implemented September 2019. You will be aware that as part of a historic whole school model all students in Year 10 and 11 currently study GCSE i-Media in addition to their option choices. Since my appointment, a closer look at the i-Media qualification pass rate clearly indicates that this course is not meeting the needs of our students and it is using up valuable curriculum time which could be utilised to secure higher grades in English and mathematics.

The new grading system operates on a 9 to 1 scale; 9 is the highest grade, while 1 is the lowest, not including a U (ungraded). A grade 4 is recognised as a standard pass and a grade 5 as a strong pass. Students aged 16 to 19 who wish to continue into further education (FE), but who received less than a grade 4 in English and/or mathematics must continue to study these subjects and retake the qualification.

In order to best secure future choices we believe that our students will benefit from additional time in English and mathematics. It is important, however, that we support our students to focus on the subjects they chose to study as part of the options process along with English and mathematics. As such, students will no longer study the GCSE i-Media course in Years 10 and 11 and will focus on English, mathematics and the subjects they personally selected to study during our options process.

Should you wish to discuss this further please contact myself or Mr M Berry via email or telephone.

Yours sincerely



Dr J Bartlett
Headteacher