



17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

Many thanks for your support during this very unusual and challenging Autumn term. I am very pleased at how the students have managed themselves and shown wonderful resilience and maturity over the past term, while they learn new systems and return to face-to-face lessons.

### Changes to Timetables

In order to make sure pupils have a firm grounding in literacy and numeracy in KS3 and are ready for the challenges of the GCSE curriculum in KS4, we have decided to make some changes to some student timetables. We feel now is the time to help pupils master numeracy and literacy skills which allow them to access the higher grades within Science, Humanities and all their other subjects.

We are moving away from the traditional setting of pupils by ability. We are aiming to ensure that all pupils reach their chronological age in reading and writing by creating target groups, which will address any gaps they may have. Some students will be receiving new timetables and will find themselves in new classes in January 2021. If your child is one of the students that is moving classes, please know that I am here to support them and answer any questions you may have about these changes.

### Good News

I am pleased to announce that yet again, the overwhelming majority of our students have been wonderfully behaved this half term. The average A2L grade (Attitude to Learning) within Year 7 has been the highest it has been since this system was established; we are immensely proud of the students for the attitudes they have shown during this time.

### Coats

With the weather becoming colder, please ensure your child is wearing appropriate outdoor clothing. Please make sure they have a black warm winter coat, hat and gloves. Some students have been coming into school with just their school blazer; this is not suitable as our classroom doors and windows are kept open throughout the day and it can get very cold. They can also wear a plain black jumper under their blazer, but must not bring in sweatshirts and hoodies.

The Year 7 team would like to wish you a safe and restful half term. As always, if there is anything we can do to help your child or your family then please do get in touch via email on:

[progressleaderyear7@thehalifaxacademy.org](mailto:progressleaderyear7@thehalifaxacademy.org)

Yours sincerely



Ms G. Saddique  
Year 7 Progress Leader