



Tuesday 10th November 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to let you know that we have decided to conduct a thorough review of the new arrangements for homework that were introduced at the beginning of the current academic year.

This decision has been reached after very careful consideration and having taken into account views expressed by parents. It was clear that the arrangements were unpopular with some and that I had underestimated the depth of feeling on the issue. My colleagues and I therefore concluded that in its current form the policy cannot be made to operate properly and effectively.

However, arrangements that were in place prior to this academic year will remain. Year 7 pupils will continue to be given reading assignments every evening and Year 10 and 11 pupils will continue to receive additional work to prepare them for final exams which can be done at home or in their morning study periods.

In conducting our review, we shall keep in mind the objective that I explained when we introduced the new homework policy in September. The catalyst for the change to our approach was the reforms at GCSE level that have introduced stringent new academic challenges for all year groups from Year 10 and below. These challenges remain, and I hope that you will work with us to encourage students to rise to them and develop the skills and knowledge required to secure a 'good pass'.

I shall be in touch again with details of a new consultation that will explore how we can work together to ensure our children have the best opportunity possible to gain the qualifications that will allow them to move forward successfully into the next stage of their education or training.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warren Smith', written in a cursive style.

Warren Smith
Headteacher