

12<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
(JD/KL)



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*Headteacher*

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Dear Parent/Carer

### **Changes in English Staffing**

I am pleased to say that we have now appointed a very experienced teacher, Mr Chris Milne, to the post of Principal Teacher of English, and that he will join us in January. As you will know, our previous Principal Teacher of English, Mrs Burke, left us in the summer and her teaching commitment has been covered since then by Mr Robert Kedra, whose services I am pleased to say we have now secured until the end of this session.

On a less positive note, I am sorry to announce the departure of Ms Amy Mackintosh who has secured a teaching position in a school outwith Perth and Kinross. Amy has been an enthusiastic and able member of the English Department who has latterly acted in the position of Principal Teacher. She will be loss to the school but we wish her all the best for her future career.

As Ms Mackintosh will finish with us on Friday 23<sup>th</sup> November and Mr Milne will not arrive until the beginning of January, there will unfortunately be a four week period during which the department will not be at full complement. Ideally, we would have engaged an English supply teacher to get us through this period, but we have been unable to find supply in this subject area. We have therefore taken the decision to reorganise the English timetable for this period to ensure that wherever possible pupils continue to have their lessons taught by an English teacher. To do this we will require to restructure a number of classed across the department. The following changes will consequently take effect as of Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November:

- S1 classes will be taught in 2 sets rather than 3
- S2 classes will be taught in 2 sets rather than 3
- Higher Media will be taught by Mr Kedra
- Advanced Higher English will be taught by Mrs Kerr and Mrs Inger



I realise that such reorganisation is less than ideal but I believe it is the best way of ensuring that changes to staffing do not have a negative impact on our young people's learning experience and final attainment. We will, of course, review these changes when the department is back to full complement in the New Year. Should you have any queries, now or in the future, about these arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Woodcock, Depute Headteacher.

Finally, I regret to say that the timing of these staff changes mean that there will not be a member of staff available at the S1 parents night to speak to parents of pupils currently taught by Ms Mackintosh. If you would like to have a discussion about your child with Ms Mackintosh, I would appreciate it if you could get in touch with the school in order that we can identify an alternative time for this before her departure.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**John Devine**  
**Headteacher**