



21<sup>st</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Year 7 Setting and Assessments**

We are delighted with the way that Year 7 students have settled into the Academy. They have had a successful start and I have enjoyed visiting several of their lessons, where they have demonstrated, with pride, what they have been learning.

As you are aware, students completed their SATs exams in Year 6. This data was received by the Academy and has been used to initially set students in English, Maths and Science. In all other subjects we run two higher ability sets, with the other sets being mixed ability. Students will be differentiated for within the classroom to ensure all students are challenged in order to make the best progress across the curriculum. While we do set students for core subjects, we do believe these sets should be fluid, allowing students to move up or down based on their assessment data. This ensures students are in the appropriate set for the level of challenge and support that they require.

Students will be completing CAT tests this half term. These are tests that assess ability and aptitude for learning. They will commence on Monday 26 September. These tests are completed online, and students cannot prepare in advance for them. These results will be shared with teachers and will enable us to identify students that will be eligible to join The Bourne Scholars programme, alongside the existing SATs results and their attitude to learning scores. The data will also be used to provide targeted intervention to be put in place for students who may require support.

In the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> January, Year 7 students will complete mid-year assessments for each of the subjects they study. Staff will prepare students in lessons prior to the assessments and a support booklet will be sent home to parents/carers. The support booklet will provide information to parents, carers and students regarding the content and length of the assessment, as well as links to revision and support, to enable each student to prepare. Students will be assessed on what they have learnt in their lessons at the Academy and the knowledge organisers will be a useful revision tool to support the students.

The results of the mid-year assessments will be used to change students sets for core subjects, after the half term. The top sixty students in the year group will also be placed into the higher ability group for their other subjects. The results from these assessments will be shared with parents/carers via reports. The report will outline the % score your child achieved in their mid-year assessment for each subject, along with the average % score of the year group. This will allow you and your child to understand how they are performing in comparison to their peers. There will be a PTC evening on 8<sup>th</sup> February to enable you to discuss the results with teachers and for staff to feedback how your child can continue to maximise their progress. In the summer, students will complete further assessments in each of their subjects and students will be re-set for the start of Year 8.

**Principal: Mr Mark Avoth**

**The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS**

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THE **BOURNE** ACADEMY

Please be reassured that staff will remind students, that while they should prepare for their assessments so they feel confident, they should not put any undue pressure on themselves. The purpose of the assessment is to ensure students are in the most appropriate teaching group, that will support them to maximise their progress.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on [tracie.deane@thebourneacademy.com](mailto:tracie.deane@thebourneacademy.com)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs T Deane

**Principal: Mr Mark Avoth**

**The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS**

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