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1 December 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Changes to the curriculum offer at Caedmon College Whitby

There have been many changes proposed to the national curriculum, GCSE courses and A-level exams and in the way that schools are expected to report progress; these are being introduced over the next few years. We have been preparing for this and have adjusted our curriculum over the last two years, particularly in mathematics and English. This letter aims to keep you informed of what the changes are, what the College's response has been to the changes and how it will affect your son or daughter's education.

As your son/daughter is currently in Year 8, the changes affecting him or her are as follows:

- **Increased content in all GCSE subjects:** students will be given the chance to choose their options this year and start these options in Year 9. This will give all students a chance to specialise early in the subjects that they wish to take at GCSE and will facilitate a longer period of revision, with their specialist subject teachers, before the examinations in Year 11. Option forms will be distributed next month.
- **Increased content to GCSE Mathematics:** students already have an extra lesson in mathematics each week.
- **Students will be expected to take GCSEs in English Language and English Literature:** students already have an extra lesson in English, every week, at the College.
- **The government has increased the emphasis on students taking GCSEs in languages and humanities:** students who could succeed on this pathway will be directed towards it. We will be introducing GCSE Spanish, alongside our current offer of French and German, to give students more language options. You will find out more about this when the option forms are given out in January.

If you have any questions about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact me, either by email to s.boyd@ccwhitby.co.uk, or by telephoning the College office on (01947) 602406 and asking to speak to me or leaving your contact details so that I can get back to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Boyd'.

Ms S Boyd
Senior Teacher (Curriculum)

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Principal: Keith Prytherch, BEd, MBA