



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Dayspring Trust



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DAI/TCG

3 February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me last Week. I thought it would be timely to write out to you again so that we can move forward together in respect to the changes which we will need to make to our Y9 curriculum.

Since we last spoke, I have looked into the possibility of adding an additional bespoke course to the Y9 structure to provide an alternative GCSE for the pupils affected due to Computer Science no longer running. We feel that we are able to offer these pupils the opportunity to study GCSE Statistics as we feel that they all have the potential to do really well in this subject.

This course would be taught by Mrs Burgess who joins the team after Easter as Deputy Head. One of the benefits of choosing this option would be that all of the pupils would progress through the course together. They would start from the beginning, meaning that there was no additional pressure to catch up as this would be managed in class.

About GCSE Statistics

GCSE Statistics provides pupils with a critical appreciation of statistics and its place in everyday life. It encourages pupils to develop enquiring minds and become effective and independent learners. With a focus on handling data and probability, pupils acquire skills in and understanding of statistical concepts and methods. Pupils get involved and learn through engaging work using their knowledge to understand how statistics works in everyday life and to understand their benefits and limitations, coming up with a hypothesis and investigating it, then analysing and presenting the results. Pupils acquire skills that are relevant in a wide variety of other subjects such as the sciences, geography and social science as well as applications to vocational qualifications. GCSE Statistics is considered as a robust qualification, and is valued equally by Further and Higher Education Establishments.

I spoke to the pupils yesterday and there seemed to be quite a bit of interest in this pathway. The course will be able to run as long as there are sufficient pupils choosing it. I will endeavor to speak individually with each pupil next week to discuss their choices. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. As I outlined during the meeting in school, I am more than happy to meet pupils and parents individually to discuss next steps.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Head of School

