



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

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Head of School: Mr D Airey (BSc Hons)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs G A Booth (BA Hons/M.Ed.)



DAI/TCG

26 January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I need to update you on a situation which will unfortunately impact on our ability to deliver the Computer Science course which your child is currently studying. We offered computer science for the first time this year as we had employed Mr Charlton who had the necessary skills and expertise to deliver this qualification. Unfortunately, Mr Charlton will be leaving us at Easter. We do not currently have anyone else on the staff who is qualified with the relevant skills and the ability to deliver this specialist course. This, coupled with the way in which teacher recruitment operates, means that we would not be able to recruit a new teacher to deliver this course until September 2017 at the earliest. Even then, we may not be able to recruit someone to this role as it is a very specialist field, and we only have a very limited amount of this subject in the timetable.

We have decided that the only way forward to this issue is to change your child's Computer Science option as soon as practicable. This would mean that they can study a subject which is not likely to be impacted in this way. I realise that this will be a disappointment to our pupils, as it is to us, as many of them have really enjoyed studying this subject. In order to try and offset this, we are going to try to recruit a member of staff to deliver the Computer Science course as a GCSE running after school. This would mean that your child could continue with their Computer Science GCSE as an extra subject and would leave school with an extra GCSE.

So that I can further explain the reasons for this decision, and to talk through the options, I would like to offer you the opportunity to meet with me on Tuesday 31 Jan 5.00 p.m. in our meeting room which is located directly opposite the main doors into school. If you are unable to attend this evening, but would like to have a discussion, please contact the school office and I will try to host another session as soon as practicable.

May I take this opportunity to apologise for having to take this decision. We do realise the disappointment which it will no doubt cause. However, we decided that the longer term GCSE prospects of our pupils would be more adversely affected if we waited.

Yours faithfully

David Airey

Head of School

