

Tuesday 9thth December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re - Year 7 Group Changes – January 2026

I am delighted to share that Year 7 have settled into life at New Mills School extremely well and are already making strong progress. Highlights of the term have included our Enrichment Day, when the whole year group enjoyed local walks, and the trip to Gulliver's World, which was a great success.

Teaching groups are organised in two main ways. For most subjects, students are taught in mixed prior-attainment groups based on their form classes. However, in Maths it is particularly important that students learn alongside others with a similar level of prior learning. This approach ensures that each child can be appropriately challenged and effectively supported.

Now that students have had a term to settle in, and we have had the opportunity to assess their knowledge and skills, we will be making some adjustments to the Maths groups. Because Spanish, Music, Drama, and Computer Science follow the same groupings, these subjects will also be affected. For most students, there will be no change. Where changes are made, the purpose is to give students the best possible chance to succeed.

Once these adjustments are in place, groups will remain largely stable from this point onward.

These changes will take effect when students return in January. As a result, some students will see changes to their teaching groups.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Halls
Deputy Headteacher