

Dear Parent,

Your son or daughter is currently undertaking newly reformed GCSEs in a range of subjects. New exam specifications have been written and released over the last 12-18 months. Unfortunately the specifications have been released at different stages which has made curriculum planning more challenging.

In the case of Religious Education, which forms part of the Core Curriculum Pathway, the late publication of the examination specification in 2016, coupled with profound changes to the content and assessment, has resulted in the Academy taking a decision to remove it from the Core Pathway.

Schools are statutorily responsible to teach Religious Education to meet the requirements of sections 69 and 71 and schedule 19 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. This will continue to be met and planned accordingly.

Religious Education will be replaced by GCSE Citizenship. The exam specification, like all specifications, is a two year course, so no curriculum time has been lost.

For those pupils who are currently undertaking GCSE Citizenship (as part of the Personalised Curriculum Pathway) additional curriculum time will be assigned to GCSE Citizenship whilst the Academy explores potential alternatives.

I apologise for the late notification.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. N. Houchen