

17 July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Key Stage 4 Transition**

I am delighted to introduce myself as Head of Year 10 for next academic year. I look forward to offering support and guidance to your child throughout Key Stage 4.

Over the past two weeks, I have met with form tutors and closely monitored the progress and behaviour of the year group. Mr Owen and I led a year group assembly yesterday morning in which we shared information about the transition to Key Stage 4. Overall, I have been impressed with their progress and attitude to learning and I am sure that every student will aspire to achieve their personal best in Key Stage 4.

The clear expectation is that all Year 9 students must continue to develop about their approach to their learning that will contribute to them making a successful transition to their GCSE studies in September. The newly strengthened, linear GCSE qualifications are much more rigorous and complex in their assessment of knowledge and skills and, therefore, require students to be even more committed to independently reflect on their learning and regularly revisit subject content to ensure this learning is consolidated.

Consequently, the Academy has collated Summer Progress Work for Year 9 students to complete to help make the academic transition to GCSE work and to prepare students for the study habits necessary for GCSE success. All subjects have set guided tasks which each represent around 30 minutes of work. This resource can be located on our website (<https://www.astrea-longsands.org>) by following the 'Year 9 Summer 2019 Progress Work' link under the 'Students' tab. Students can also locate this resource on Doddle up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Students should complete the work set for the subjects they are studying; this will be monitored by the classroom teacher in the first lesson back in September. Whilst I recognise that all students need a break over the summer holiday, it is also important that they keep in touch with the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need for each subject. To that end, I thank you in anticipation for your support in ensuring this work is completed.

I will be working with a committed group of existing from tutors and I am pleased to welcome the following new tutors for the coming academic year:

- Miss C Cann and Mrs W West (10WJW), replacing Mr Walker (9TWW)
- Mrs K Garner and Mrs H Koncewicz (10HJK), replacing Mrs L Albone (9LJA)
- Mrs F McAllister (10 FKM), replacing Miss K Jones (9KKJ)

I look forward to meeting you in person on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September in our 'Welcome to Key Stage 4' evening where more information about supporting students through GCSE studies will be shared. More details of this evening will be sent to you in the new academic year; in the meantime, please can I take this opportunity to wish you a relaxing summer break.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs S A Hills**  
**Head of Year 10**