



15 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of an important pastoral change for the current Year 9 cohort as students prepare to begin their Key Stage 4 journey in September. Mrs Barley-Morey has shared this news with students today during Tutor time.

After careful consideration, we have taken the decision to change the Year Leader for the cohort at the start of next term, a thorough phased handover will take place during Summer Term 6. This decision has been made to ensure continuity of leadership and support throughout the students' GCSE years, as there is a possibility Mrs Barley-Morey may retire during the course of the cohort's Key Stage 4 journey. We felt it was important that students and families have consistent pastoral leadership throughout this particularly significant stage of education. Mr Royle, instead of recycling into new Year 7 for September will instead become Year Leader for the current Year 9 students as they move into Year 10 and beyond. As many of you will know Mr Royle is an experienced and highly regarded member of staff who is fully committed to ensuring the year group continue to thrive both academically and personally and build on all the great foundations Mrs Barley-Morey has set.

Mrs Barley-Morey will remain a highly valued member of our school community and will take on responsibility for our incoming Year 7 students in September. This will allow us to utilise her extensive experience and expertise in supporting students during their transition into secondary education — an area in which she has always excelled. A thorough handover process will take place over the coming weeks to ensure a smooth transition for students and families. Importantly, Mrs Barley-Morey will still very much be part of school life and will continue to support the year group where needed over the coming terms.

Mrs Barley-Morey has asked that I share the following message with you:

“Over the past three years it has been my privilege to support and help guide your children from their transition from Year 6 through to Year 9. I have watched them grow in confidence, resilience and maturity, facing challenges with determination and celebrating many successes along the way.

As I step away as their Year Lead, I am incredibly proud of the young people they have become and am so very grateful for the memories, laughter, and relationships built with both the students and with you as their parents and carers, during our journey together.

The year group will continue to be supported by a strong tutor team who know your children well, and I know that they will be in good hands through the leadership of Mr Royle. I wish them every success as they continue into the next stage of their school life and will, of course, be on hand over the next few terms to support where necessary.”

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Barley-Morey for her outstanding commitment and care for the year group over the last three years. I know students and families will join me in wishing her well in her new role with our incoming Year 7 cohort.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership with the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Lowdell
Headteacher