



14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you and your family well at the start of this academic year.

I am writing to you today to update you on how Year 8 have settled into the new year and to provide you with an outline of our plans for the year ahead.

It has been pleasing to see so many students in Year 8 adjusting to our new procedures relating to Covid-19, especially at break and lunch in their designated bubble space. I am also pleased to see how Year 8 have settled into their lessons, and many are very keen to start off the year by working hard and showing a positive attitude.

### **Key Contacts**

In the first instance, please contact your child's mentor, who will be able to resolve your query or direct it to the relevant member of staff. Mentors can be contacted via the school telephone number or by email; mentor email addresses are available on the Year 8 section of the school website:

<https://www.garibaldischool.co.uk/page.php?d=year8&p=year8>.

### **Changes to Study Period**

This year, we have changed our approach to Study Period. All year groups have Study Period at the start of their school day from Monday to Thursday. There is no Study Period on a Friday. Study Period also runs on a two-week timetable. For your reference, I have included a copy of the weekly Study Period timetable for Year 8:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Week 1</b>			
<b>Character Development</b>	<b>Religion, Equality &amp; Diversity</b>	<b>Assembly</b>	<b>Personal Development</b>
<b>Week 2</b>			
<b>Character Development</b>	<b>Religion, Equality &amp; Diversity</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Personal Development</b>

The above timetable is different for each year group. This change to the way that we deliver Study Period allows us to target skills and cover a wide range of topics that are relevant to Year 8. It also helps us to cement our high expectations that we have for students and the high expectations that students should have themselves.

### **Curriculum and provision changes**

Since Year 8 have started back, staff have worked hard to check students' knowledge, understanding and skills in order to plan amazing lessons and ensure amazing progress. Over the coming months, where necessary, the school will be ready to provide students with further support, in the form of intervention and guidance, to ensure that students achieve their full potential.

During remote learning, we ran a Hall of Fame for each year group. This was well received by students, staff and parents, and we intend to carry this on throughout this year. I will ask staff for nominations towards the end of each Half Term and these nominations will be published on the school website in due course.

I will write to you again during Half Term 2 to provide you with a further update. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr B Hall  
Achievement Lead – Year 8  
Teacher of Design & Technology