

11th February 2010

Dear Parents

Building Schools for the Future – planning for the next few months at Grey Coat.

As you know the new Arts Block is currently under construction, and further refurbishment work in the old St Andrew's building is planned for the summer. In order to manage the work we will need to clear all teaching in the Science/Geography and DT corridors from the May half term until the end of the school year. This will involve timetabling some Y7-9 classes at St Michael's when they have a double period. Your daughter will be given a timetable with the new rooming arrangements for her classes nearer the time.

In addition, major changes in ICT, related to BSF, will be introduced in September. To allow the essential work to be done to prepare for this, it will be necessary to shorten the school year by four days for students in Years 7 to 9 only. **This means that the summer term will end on Friday 16th July for students in Years 7-9.**

Older students will not be affected. Students in Y10 will be able to benefit from their full entitlement to learning in the workplace from 12th to 21st July, including a debriefing session on Thursday 22nd July. They will not have work experience curtailed. Y12 students will have a special programme after their AS exams. Y11 and Y13 do not normally return to school after their public examinations, and this will continue to be the case.

I very much regret having to reduce the younger students' learning time, but when we became aware of the volume of work to be done over the summer, it was clear that this was necessary. Shortening the summer term for some students will allow us to make a proper start to the new school year in September, without last minute disruption.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Allard
Headteacher