

10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you with regards to maths groups and setting in year 7. After a hugely successful return to school in 2021, we are looking to reset the students in maths in year 7.

As a result of COVID, when the students arrived in year 7 there were no SAT results, the main piece of data we would normally use to help decide setting. Similarly, due to large scale absences during years 5 and 6, teacher assessment was also inconsistent, which is understandable given the range of primary feeders and the disruption caused by the pandemic. Without this detailed KS2 prior attainment data from primaries, we felt the best course of action would be to spend the first term working with students and evaluating any gaps in learning, before resetting our students.

In maths we have already been assessing their ability in order to set them accurately, matching students to a group of similar ability and ensuring the best rates of progress for each individual. With the unprecedented challenges caused by COVID, our curriculum in year 7 deliberately began with Algebra; a topic which is largely new to many students. We followed this with work on 'place value', something familiar to all students.

We have undertaken continuous assessment of students in lessons, in low stakes assessments, and next week there will be a larger summative test (revision details below). I have included this in this letter so that students have a good idea of what will be in the test, so that they can give it their best. Mathswatch is the website the students have been using all year in their studies.

**YEAR 7 AUTUMN ASSESSMENT - CALCULATOR ALLOWED**

<u>Question</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Mathswatch Clip</u>
1	<a href="#">Place Value - Integers</a>	N1a
2	<a href="#">Rounding - Nearest 10, 100, 1000</a>	N27a
3	<a href="#">Ordering Fractions on a Number Line</a>	N34
4	<a href="#">Function Machines &amp; Inverse Operations</a>	N26
5	<a href="#">Number Patterns</a>	N12
6	<a href="#">Shaded Fractions</a>	N23a
7	<a href="#">Median, Mode &amp; Range</a>	S6
8	<a href="#">Subtraction - Decimals</a>	N14b
9	<a href="#">Special Sequences</a>	A22
10	<a href="#">Substitution</a>	A10
11	<a href="#">Algebraic Notation</a>	A4
12	<a href="#">Substitution</a>	A10
13	<a href="#">Fractions, Decimals &amp; Percentages</a>	N32
14	<a href="#">Solving Basic Equations</a>	A12

15	<a href="#">Algebraic Simplification</a>	A7a
16	<a href="#">Fraction of an Amount</a>	N33
17	<a href="#">Sequences - Term to Term Rule</a>	A11a

Over the next few weeks we will set students according to ability based upon our knowledge from these lessons and assessments, as well using our additional CAT test information (taken earlier in the term). We will also take in to account the information sent to us by the primary school teachers.

**The timeline for this setting process is outlined below.**

- Week beginning 13/12/2021 – End of Term Test
- Week Beginning 3/1/2022 – Marking, group change decisions and parent/carer consultation.
- Week Beginning 17/1/2022 – Group Changes to take place.

If you have any further questions regarding the process, please get in touch: [jphillips@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:jphillips@budmouth-aspirations.org)

Yours sincerely

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