

08 September 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

**RE: CLASS GROUPINGS – KS3**

Your child received their new timetable today which specifies the time of all of their lessons as well as the teachers who will be teaching them.

**Why is my child in the same class for all of their lessons?**

You will be aware that your child has been placed into a new group for their lessons at the academy. This is different to previous years where they would have been in three separate groups for different lessons. Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 will now remain in the same group and same classroom for most of the day. This is one of the measures that we have in place in the academy to reduce the Covid-19 transmission risk.

The group that your child is now in is the same group for learning coaching and for all of their lessons. This group has been carefully chosen to ensure that every child learns in the best environment for them. We believe in limitless potential for all children and subsequently the group that any child learns in does not determine or limit what they can achieve.

**What is a mixed attainment group?**

While some schools and academies have 'sets' or 'streams' for some or all of their subjects, groupings are different at Oasis Academy Silvertown in Year 7, 8 and 9. From September 2020, all students are in 'mixed attainment' groups for all of their subjects. Mixed attainment groups are classes which contain students with a variety of strengths and areas for development. These groups are all of equal size, containing 25-30 students. They are chosen carefully, considering which group will support and challenge each child to learn best. Performance in tests and assessments do not affect allocation to these groups.

**Why does Oasis Academy Silvertown teach in mixed attainment groups?**

Research shows that 'mixed attainment' groups help students to learn more effectively when they are taught well. In addition, research shows that when children are taught well in mixed attainment groups that they are more likely to have high expectations of themselves and to believe in their limitless potential.

If you have any further questions regarding your child's education, please do phone the academy so that we can arrange for you to speak with a member of the leadership team.

Yours faithfully



Emily Boxer  
Deputy Principal