

18th November 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that, along with many schools nationally, we are needing to schedule an additional INSET day for staff this school year. This need is due to the unprecedented amount of curriculum and assessment change that is being imposed nationally on state schools currently. Schools are being asked to choose and implement new GCSEs and A Levels, and a new National Curriculum at Key Stage 3. Also, the assessment system of National Curriculum Levels at KS3 has been abolished and not replaced, so all schools are faced with devising their own assessment systems. Governors have considered the implications and have agreed that an additional INSET day is necessary in order for our school to be ready to deliver and assess the new curriculum in September 2016 and without it, there will be detriment to the education we will provide.

There is a careful balance between losing a normal day of schooling and the benefit that this time will bring to the school and I would not have asked Governors for this day if I did not feel that it was essential.

Therefore the following arrangements will apply:

- **Tuesday 5th January 2016** will be an additional INSET day.

continued over

If you wish your child to attend supervised study on Tuesday 5th January 2016, please could you complete the reply slip below and return it to your child's form tutor by Friday 11th December.

| Reply Slip – INSET Day 2016 | |
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| I wish my son/daughter to attend supervised study on Tuesday 5 th January 2016. | |
| Child/Children's Names: | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Tutor Group(s): | |
| Parent/Carer's signature: | |
| Date: | |

- Sixth Form Mock Examinations will not be affected and students with mock examinations on this day should come to school as planned.
- There will be no normal lessons for years 7 to 11. Work will be set by teachers before the Christmas holiday which can be done during this additional day and must be completed on return to school.
- We understand that for some parents it will not be possible to supervise your child at home and we will provide supervision for these students to study in school. Students will have private study sessions supervised by support staff, during which students will complete the work set by teachers. Students should bring a packed lunch and snacks.
- School buses will be available as normal for those students attending school for examinations or supervised study.

The outcome of the two INSET days in January will be:

- Improved planning of schemes of work, leading to improved teaching of the new courses
- Devising a new assessment without levels system for KS3. Keeping track of your child's progress has been a major development in the last two years and creating a new system for Wood Green is vital.

We do thank you for your understanding in this matter. It will make a real difference and provide us with the unique opportunity to address the significant national change being imposed on schools. I am very keen to ensure that we manage this change successfully to build on recent improvement and success. I can confirm that Henry Box School are also having an additional INSET day, on a different day in the new year.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Shadbolt
Headteacher