



6 March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We are writing to inform you of some necessary changes to our curriculum provision, which will take effect from September 2025. These changes have been made after careful consideration by the Governing Board and with deep regret, as we understand they will impact our School community.

**At the current time, AHS offers more A Levels and GCSE courses than other local schools, and also greater teaching time in Year 12.** Due to increasing financial pressures, including rising operational costs, reduced Government funding and the top-slicing of our budget by Buckinghamshire Council, we must now reduce this extended provision, and bring ourselves in line with other schools. We have done all that we can to avoid this, we have already set in motion a number of cost saving measures such as reduction in capital spending plans and decisions to freeze recruitment in certain areas. However, these are not sufficient, and we have to take further action. The Governing Board considered various options which the School could take, keeping the School's Vision and Mission foremost in mind, and our staff have been made aware of the agreed changes over this week. Specifically, from September 2025, the following changes will be actioned:

- The curriculum offer of Dance as an academic subject will change. This will not affect existing GCSE and A Level students. **We will ensure a robust co-curricular provision of Dance will be maintained.**
- Our offer of A Level PE will be provided in collaboration with our brother school, AGS. **We will continue to provide Year 12 and 13 co-curricular PE.**
- We will no longer provide swimming lessons to Years 8 and 9, **but will maintain them for Year 7.**
- We will, in line with other Bucks Grammar schools, reduce our teaching time in Year 12 to 9 hours per fortnight, rather than the 10 that we currently provide. We were the only grammar school to provide 10 hours/fortnight.
- **Senior Leadership Team:** We will be operating with a smaller Senior Leadership Team.

We understand that these changes may cause concern, and we want to assure you that we have explored all available options before reaching these decisions. Our priority remains to provide the best possible education for our students, and we will continue to focus on maintaining high standards in core curriculum delivery, in both academic and personal development.

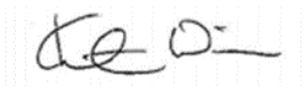
We recognise the invaluable support you provide to the school, and we are particularly grateful for the generous donations we have received over the years, and particularly this year. These contributions have played a **vital** role in enhancing our School environment and enriching the

educational experience for our students. The financial challenges we face are ongoing, and we are immensely grateful for your continued support. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a significant difference.

We are committed to maintaining open communication with you, as always. Please contact my PA, Mrs Hilary Osgerby, at [secretary@ahs.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@ahs.bucks.sch.uk) if you would like to meet with us, or discuss by phone, you are most welcome.

We would like to finish by thanking you for all that you do for our School as parents and carers, your support and partnership helps ensure the best possible future for our students despite this difficult news.

With very best wishes



Dr Kate Weir

Chair of Governors



Helen Bush

Chair of Governors



Marieke Forster

Headmistress

