



A community of transformation founded on love, hope & trust

St Mark's Church of England Academy

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Headteacher: Aimee Gallagher

Friday 25 September 2026

Dear Parent or Carer,

We are pleased to share that our Year 12 students have settled into Sixth Form extremely well. They have made a positive start to their courses and are becoming familiar with the expectations and routines of post-16 study.

During the week beginning 28th September, your child will complete a Year 12 suitability or baseline assessment. These assessments will help us confirm that each student is enrolled on the course best suited to their strengths and aspirations, while giving them an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have developed in lessons so far.

The assessment arrangements are as follows:

- **Students studying A Level subjects** will complete a short, written assessment in each subject. Depending on the course, this may include structured questions, an essay or another task that reflects the subject's examination requirements.
- **Students studying BTEC courses** will complete a baseline assessment relevant to their programme. The results will allow us to identify individual learning needs and provide appropriate support and intervention as students prepare for their external examinations in January.

The expected pass mark for each A Level assessment is 50%. If your child does not achieve this mark, we will arrange a meeting with you and your child to review their progress, discuss the support available and consider whether an alternative subject may be more suitable.

As a Sixth Form, we strive to provide a supportive and ambitious environment in which every student can make strong progress, grow in confidence and fulfil their potential. We would be grateful if you could encourage your child to prepare carefully for these assessments and to speak with their subject teachers if they require any guidance.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Academy.

Yours faithfully

Ms A. Glymidou

Vice Principal

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Ms L. Hopwood

Head of Sixth Form

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