

14 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carers

Happy New Year.

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break.

We are writing to update you on an important change to how we store and manage staff, student and family data in school.

With over 1,700 students, managing contact details, timetables, reports and other essential information is a complex task. Like all schools, we rely on a Management Information System (MIS) to organise this data. However, our current MIS no longer meets the needs of the school, and we have had to rely on several additional apps such as ClassCharts, ScoPay and Parent Cloud. We know this can be frustrating for families who have to use multiple systems to stay informed.

Over the past year, the Trust has been exploring alternative MIS options and has made the decision to move to **Arbor**. We are excited about this change, as Arbor will significantly reduce the number of apps parents need to use once fully launched.

Unfortunately, Arbor does not integrate with ClassCharts. This means we will be moving away from ClassCharts and transitioning to Arbor as our main communication platform. We know ClassCharts has been extremely popular with families and staff, and this decision has not been taken lightly. However, we have been very impressed with Arbor's capabilities and believe it will offer a more streamlined and efficient experience for everyone.

Arbor will eventually replace the apps currently used for reporting absence, receiving reports, giving trip permissions and making payments for lunches and school visits. All of these functions will be available in one single parent app.

Introducing a new MIS is a significant change and will require all staff to receive training.

To support this, there will be an **additional INSET day on Friday 27th March 2026**, during which school will be closed to students.

We will write to you again in the coming weeks with a clear timeline for the transition and further information about what this will mean for parents, students and staff.

Thank you for your understanding. We are confident that this change is in the best interests of our pupils and will improve communication and efficiency across the school.

As always thank you for your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely



R Walkden
Headteacher

