

21 June 2016

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

As you may be aware, our Latin teacher left Nottingham Free School recently in order to take up a full time post in another school. Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all of her work and support at Nottingham Free School. For the remainder of the school year, students will use the time for other academic studies, for example, revision lessons, PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Accelerated Reader and English.

This situation, however, leaves us with the very difficult position of having to recruit another Latin teacher. This has been an area of real difficulty for us and we are very conscious of the level of disruption experienced by students. Therefore, we have taken the decision not to run Latin next year but to use the time (one lesson per week) to focus on developing speaking and listening skills.

Students in years 7 and 8 will follow a new LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) course called the 'LAMDA Level 2 Award in Speaking and Listening skills. This programme will enable all students to develop independent research skills as well as assertiveness, confidence and sociability, all required by future education, training and employment. At the end of the two years, students who have fully completed the two units covered will be awarded the qualification at pass, merit or distinction level.

The lessons will be delivered by our English staff and supported by our LAMDA coach. This is a separate qualification to those run during the extra-curricular provision so will not have a negative impact if your child already takes part in our current LAMDA provision. Our current LAMDA courses will remain as part of our extra-curricular provision.

More details will be provided in our forthcoming parent forum meeting on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June and the qualification is explained on the LAMDA website <a href="https://www.lamda.org.uk/about-the-lamda-schools-award">https://www.lamda.org.uk/about-the-lamda-schools-award</a>.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs J Brown Head of School

