



AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

*from*

HEAD OF CLASSICS

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To all Parents or Y9 students re Latin, Greek and Classical Civilisation,

In Year 9 most pupils take either one or two Classical subjects. Those who have completed more than two years of Latin, and/or those who up to now have been finding Latin relatively easy, are in Set 1. This set will also be taught Classical Greek, which is a wonderful opportunity to sample a fascinating language, an exciting (but by no means inaccessible) intellectual challenge, and a chance to enrich their English.

Those students with less experience of Latin, and those who have found it harder at their previous school, will find the pace in set 2 more palatable. For this set, the main focus of the course will be learning topics of Roman history and civilisation, and these will be taught in English. In effect, from the mid-point of the Autumn term, set 2 Latin will be learning not Latin but Classical Civilisation.

I am afraid it has not been possible to assign every student to a Latin set; for example, students who benefit from Learning Support or lessons in English as an Additional language, as well as a small number of other students, will not have Latin or Classical Civilisation on their timetable.

I appreciate that at this initial point in the year, we may well need to tweak the set lists. The Year 9 teachers will monitor students' progress carefully in the first few weeks of term, and will suggest changes where necessary. In the meantime, do please let me know if you have any questions or observations about your child's suitability to be in one of the classics sets. If your child would particularly like to learn Greek but does not have it on his or her timetable, again please let me know. It is better to make any changes at the start of the year, and it is not normally possible to change sets after the first half term.

Those studying both Greek and Latin will have the option to continue with both, with one, or with neither language to GCSE. I hope very much they will choose at least one, but in any case we expect them to continue with both at least to the end of Year 9. They have nothing to fear, and an immense amount to gain, from their studies in these two classical languages.

Yours Faithfully

Dr Charlotte Goddard  
Head of Classics