



# Aston Academy

Principal: Mr J Graham BSc (Hons), PGCE  
Executive Principal: Mrs R Hibberd BEd (Hons), MA  
CEO: Mrs R Scutt BSc (Hons), PGCE

Vice Principals:  
Miss C Anyon BA (Hons), PGCE  
Mrs S Moore BA MEd  
Mr P Wilson BSc (Hons)  
Ms F Haywood BA (Hons), PGCE

Aughton Road  
Swallownest  
Sheffield  
S26 4SF

Tel: 0114 287 2171  
info@astonacademy.org  
www.astonacademy.org



18 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support this week. Another week full of opportunities and progress.

The academy have created a working link with Learn Sheffield, and we have enjoyed a visit and feedback from them. The Learn Sheffield team provide high quality school improvement support, advice and direction. They have visited lessons, spoken to students during break and lunchtimes and met with academy leaders. The collaboration given not only provides the academy clear direction on areas of strength and development but also allows us to monitor the rate of improvement in key areas. We are welcoming the team back again in November and December for further support. This work will then be extended throughout the new year. We want our provision to be the best in Rotherham and see no reason why we can't achieve this.

On Wednesday we had a wonderful evening meeting with Y10 parents and carers to launch our week-long Y10 work experience. The turnout and support of our Y10 parents and carers was overwhelming and staff are greatly appreciative of the support and positive messages in return. Work experience is a huge undertaking for the academy, but we believe the advantages our children get from five days' work experience greatly out ways any cost or administration challenges. I can't wait to hear student plans when they begin to arrange and finalise their places of work for the week.

Today I have the pleasure of welcoming Jake Richards MP into the academy. I am greatly looking forward to sharing our academy vision and learning how our government will support education and our young people. I will pass further updates on about our meeting next week. I hope that this will be the beginning of close work and collaborations with our local MPs and councillors to ensure that our students and staff receive the best provisions possible to be successful.

We have spoken to members of our community this week who have warned of a new social media craze (or perhaps an old craze returning) - sniffing permanent/semi-permanent marker pens. As with most things it has been on social media and has been called 'huffing' or 'chroming'. We have included details in the tutor briefings this week and asked staff to be vigilant. [Here](#) is a good link that we shared with details and risk.

Finally, congratulations to our PE faculty who this week have been awarded as a Centre of Excellence for Sports Leadership by the Leadership Skills Foundation. This is excellent recognition of the hard work the faculty have put in to training our students to be sports leaders and providing them with opportunities to plan, lead and run sports sessions for students inside and outside the academy.

It has been a great week for our PE team who have also ensured that over 200 students are now qualified CPR first aiders after completing training as part of the 'Restart a Heart Day'. We want to encourage as many of our students as we can to be #CPRConfident and help keep the Aston community as safe.



Resilience    Pride    Respect    Ambition    Responsibility

**Be Exceptional**

One more school week before students and staff enjoy half term, which begins from Monday 28 October. Let's have full attendance for the last week. Good luck to our students and staff who are visiting Berlin over the half term holiday, what a great cultural experience.

The combination of home, school and student will make a difference.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Graham', written in a cursive style.

**Mr J Graham**  
**Principal**