



Aston Academy

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

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Miss C Anyon BA (Hons), PGCE
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Dear Parent/Carer,

A very happy new year and good luck for a very successful 2025. The inclement weather has been a challenge for everyone as we return back after the Christmas break. I would like to thank you, our parents/carers, for your support during the enforced school closure on Monday. I must also thank our academy site teams who have worked outside normal hours to ensure that the site can be opened this week.

Even with the icy start we have enjoyed welcoming our students back. We started Tuesday with our re-set assemblies and time for every student, with their group tutor, to ensure that our expectations for a successful 2025 can be communicated to every student. We are determined to continue to make improvements in 2025; we want the best possible provision for your child in terms of outcomes and opportunities.

Teaching and learning is the key driver of every school, and at Aston Academy we have a set of non-negotiables in place, each lesson, to support your child's learning and progress. A non-negotiable is a teaching technique or activity that we would expect every member of staff to use in every lesson. I plan to use my Friday letters this half term to introduce each of these to you. I hope that this will help parents/carers have a clearer understanding of what is happening in the classroom and how these techniques will support your child's learning.

The 'Do Now Task' is our first non-negotiable we are going to look at. This is a very important tool, to not only get the lesson started in a calm and consistent manner, but also check the understanding of students. On entry to all lessons, students have a do now task to complete immediately and independently. These vary in nature from subject to subject but mostly use recall skills to assess the knowledge and understanding of the class in preparation for the lesson ahead. Please ask your child what types of Do Now Task they have had this week: does your child find them easy or difficult, and why?

On Monday I am very much looking forward to welcoming all our Y11 parent/carers for our Y11 consultation evening. This will provide a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress and readiness for the February trial exams. On Friday next week I will also be welcoming Cllr Robert Taylor to the academy. The visit will hopefully continue our collaboration with local leaders to ensure that Aston Academy makes a positive contribution to its community

Have a wonderful weekend.

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

Best regards,

Mr J Graham
Principal



Resilience Pride Respect Ambition Responsibility

Be Exceptional