



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:
Mrs S Moore BA MEd
Mr P Wilson BSc (Hons)
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Dear Parent/Carer,

The end of our first full week together, on behalf of my staff, I would like to thank you and praise the students for a tremendous start to the academic year. The students have transitioned back into school very well, adapting quickly to any updated routine and risen to the challenge of our high expectations for them. A special mention to some of our youngest and oldest students - we have been very impressed with the resilience, positive attitudes and work ethic of our Y7 and Y11 students so far - keep it up! We finish the week today with a very important day (perhaps more for our parents/carers) – it's school photo day. I am sure hair, smiles and top buttons will be perfect.

We are looking forward to a busy and productive first half term. Some of the highlights will be welcoming our parents and carers into the academy for the Y11 information evening on Monday 15 September, followed by our Post 16 parent/carers welcome on Tuesday 23 September and an exciting event for our Y10 parent/carers which will act as our launch for the summer Y10 work experience week. Details and invites for these events will be sent to parents, so please keep a look out for them, it would be great to see you in the academy. It is very important to us that we build strong relationship with our families and events such as the above support this in happening.

For our students we have lots to look forward to during the first half term. Amongst some of the exciting events will be a Y7 and Y8 careers day, international week of languages, reading week, rewards week and the always popular Y7 and Y8 Halloween Disco. A huge thanks, from me, to our staff who are planning and organising these events, as well as the many other things that happen throughout the term. We want to provide plenty of 'extras' for our students - events to be excited about, to change the routine and hopefully create some memories as well as supporting the wider student experience and development.

This week our catering partners, Mellors, have continued to install the IT infrastructure, we fully expect this process to be completed next week. We know that this will greatly speed up our services at both lunch and breaktime. We also look forward to the menu expanding even more, providing an even wider range of new dishes and student favourites. Hopefully we are continuing to demonstrate to you our commitment in seeking improvements in all areas to provide the best experiences for our students.

Mr Wilson, our Vice Principal will continue to keep you updated on all thing's attendance each week, we have been pleased with the attendance over the first week. We will always strive for more, but the attendance figures below are pleasing. Attendance is always important but especially in the first weeks of term so students can meet their teachers, become familiar with routines, timetables, seating plans and start new lesson topics.

Year 7	99%
Year 8	94%
Year 9	94%
Year 10	95%
Year 11	95%



Resilience Pride Respect Ambition Responsibility

Be Exceptional

Extra-curricular clubs are beginning to start, and we will be sending out information about these clubs to you. Please encourage your child to take up and try a club. There are no fees, and everyone is welcome. Just choose a club and turn up! If I could give parents one piece of advice to help their child make the best of secondary school experiences, create lifelong memories and meet some fantastic peers it would be to join a club, this might be for wellbeing, recreation or for competition and performance. Either way I can not recommend this enough.

We also know that our students do amazing things outside of the academy. Please don't forget to share your children's outstanding achievements from outside of school with us. It is great to be able to celebrate with students.

Have a wonderful Friday, if you have any thoughts on what you would like me to share or explain further in my Friday updates, please let me know.

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 read 'J. Graham', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Graham
Principal