

Aston Academy

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Tuesday 11th November 2025

Dear Interested Parties,

I am writing to inform you of an important decision regarding the future of the Post-16 provision at Aston Academy. Due to declining numbers of students opting to stay on for Post-16 study over the last few years, Aston Post-16 has become increasingly financially unviable. This does reflect a national trend, and Aston has experienced increasing levels of competition from other providers of Post-16 education within the local area. Consequently, the academy has had to redirect a significant amount of funding from students in Key Stage 3 & 4, alongside ongoing investment from ACET, to keep the Post-16 provision open.

Despite leaders' best efforts to increase student numbers, such ventures have proved unsuccessful and the financial forecast for the provision is untenable moving forward. In addition to this, Trustees are committed to ensuring students have access to a broad and enriching curriculum offer at Post-16, which is not something ACET can sustainably offer at Aston with a small cohort of students. Enrolments into Y12 in September 2025 were significantly lower than anticipated and leaders and Trustees do not believe it is equitable to continue to compromise the education of younger students, or other students across the Trust through significant redirection of funding. Consequently, ACET's Board of Trustees has made the difficult decision to proceed with a public consultation for a planned phased closure of the provision.

Outlined below is the proposed, planned phased closure:

- In September 2025, Post-16 will remain open to Y13, with students being able to access the same curriculum offer as they have in Y12. Current Y12 students' studies will not be affected.
- From September 2026, the provision will only open to Y13 – there will not be a Y12 cohort.
- From September 2027, the provision will be permanently closed.

We are seeking the views of wider stakeholders and interested parties as part of a consultation which will close on Tuesday 9th December 2025; should you have any comments or suggestions related to the proposed phased closure, please share these with us at the following email address: contactus@astoncetrust.org



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Empowering Achievement
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