

Aston Academy

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Striving for **Excellence**
Empowering Achievement
Shaping **Learning**

26 June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7,

A brilliant week for Year 7 - they have risen to the challenge of managing themselves heatwave with good grace, good humour and a good deal of sense. Pupils and families have taken sensible measures alongside school in terms of keeping hydrated and as cool as possible. In a week that has seen extensive disruption and closures around the country I am very proud that our Y7 attendance has remained strong.

The Year 7 team have received lots of positive feedback from staff this week - I'd like to share a couple of snapshots of this from Mr Staniland and Mr Bhogul:

"Just a quick email to praise my Year 7 lads yesterday Period 4. We were on Tennis outside and with modified small court games, lots of water and shade breaks when they chose & they continued on with learning really improving their skills and resilience. Lots of positivity and lots of sensible decisions from the students! A hot but lovely hour!"

"Just wanted to send a quick email to give some well-deserved recognition to 7X/Dt2, who I have had for a double period for Textiles this morning. Not only have they been quietly working for 2 hours continuously - they have been incredibly resilient, respectful, and ambitious through the entire double-lesson. Every student has been really focused, sharing resources and using passes and cool water breaks responsibly. They have all gotten an incredible amount of work done despite the heat. I am very proud of them, and they have been an absolute joy to teach."

Thank you also for adapting quickly to our adjustment to PE kit for this week. We will return to normal uniform expectations on Monday - however pupils will not need to wear a blazer: see Mr Graham's letter.

A very important week next week as our new Year 7 will join us for their two transition days. I am sure you will agree that it does not seem long since your children were joining us to learn a little more about how we do things at Aston. Year 6 will be excited and perhaps a little nervous, so it is vital that they feel reassured by our routines, the conduct of our students and the sense of belonging we have built at Aston. Current Year 7 provide the best possible model for them - we are going from strength to strength.

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Y7 Consultation Evening

It was lovely to see so many families in attendance at our Year 7 Consultation Evening on Monday. A busy night of meaningful conversations with staff and it was great to hear so much praise, positivity and challenge for pupils. A major focus for us now is 'maintaining the momentum' into Year 8 and keeping our standards high and our routines for learning tight. Thank you for the very thoughtful feedback we have received too - it has been incredibly reassuring for parents thinking about Aston Academy for their child to read comments like the ones below:

"The leadership team have held the children's best interests at the forefront of all planning. The year team have shown such compassion and care for his pastoral needs-always a listening ear. And the teaching staff have spent time getting to know him. It's been such a supportive environment where he is thriving."

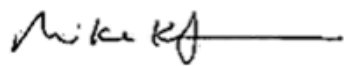
"We were worried in the beginning that we had made the wrong choice as my child was one of only a couple of children who came from their primary school, but it was the best decision we made."

Your constructive feedback around homework and opportunities to visit the Academy has been very useful - informing our planning for next year.

Congratulations!

A Year 7 pupil has passed a major milestone this week and we could not be more delighted for him. We have been determined that achievement points have real currency - while they are awarded for good conduct, lovely manners and showing the school values, pupils need to demonstrate real commitment to learning in order to really build the 'green' on their Classcharts profile. This pupil has really embodied everything we look for in Year 7 - unfailingly polite, showing real enthusiasm for learning and gently supportive of his peers. It was heartening to hear that the rest of Year 7 think just as much of him as the staff - because the applause on the Head Yard this morning was resounding!

Yours faithfully,



Mike Kilgannon
Assistant Vice Principal