

Aston Academy

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

Principal: James Graham BSc (Hons), PGCE

CEO: Rebecca Scutt BSc (Hons), PGCE

18 September 2026

Dear parent/carer,

Friday has arrived, and our students and staff should be very proud of their work, successes and progress throughout the week. A highlight for me was the opportunity to welcome the parents and carers of our Year 11 and Year 10 students into the academy this week. We had wonderful attendance and received excellent feedback from both our Year 11 Information Evening and Year 10 Work Experience Launch. I am always excited to begin the Key Stage 4 journey, and we have very high hopes for our Year 10 and Year 11 students. We look forward to watching their progress throughout the academic year.

It is always lovely to see the school busy after 3.00pm. Students staying for Team 27 Year 11 revision, parents and carers visiting, Year 6 students taking part in tours, and our extra-curricular clubs in full swing. Extra-Curricular numbers this week have been excellent, with everything from computer coding and Japanese to our sports clubs starting another season.

In sport, our football boys have led the way and completed a clean sweep against Oakwood, winning matches across all age groups. It has been a great start as competition heats up to see which sports team will become our next Rotherham champions. I have a blank noticeboard on our main corridor ready for the winning team photograph!

I cannot recommend highly enough the benefits of joining a club. Whether it is for competition or simply recreation, we have lots to choose from. Well, done to the students and staff involved. It is important to me that our students are proud of their school and community, and that they know our sports teams and students can compete with and beat anyone in Rotherham, Yorkshire, or beyond. I have reported many times that the opportunities Aston Academy provides, both within and outside the classroom, allow all our students to achieve, belong, and thrive. So, please encourage your child to say yes to opportunity and give a club a go. There is no need to sign up and no cost involved. Just turn up, enjoy yourself, and give it a try!

Below is a link to the clubs available through our school website.

[Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

We are also very excited to be working with our newly appointed Chair of Governors, Liz Swanson. From our first conversations, it is very clear that Liz is invested in Aston Academy, its students, staff, and families. I am very confident that, in her position as Chair of Governors, Liz will make a considerable impact on the provision and opportunities available at our school.

Below is a short introduction from Liz. We wish her every success in the role, and I am sure all our families will offer her their full support.

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"Having worked in education for the past 22 years, with a strong focus on special educational needs and staff wellbeing, my governance journey began in 2020 as Waverley Junior Academy was being built and my daughter started in Year 1. Navigating those early days through Covid showed me the incredible power of a tightly knit community. Having previously served as Chair at Waverley, I am now proud to take on the role of Chair across both Waverley and Aston."

With education governance shifting towards a much more community-led approach, my aim is to bring that ethos to life through genuine co-production, transparency, and collaboration with parents and carers. By looking beyond, the school gates to strengthen community safety and ensure every family has a true voice, I look forward to working together so that every child and family feels heard, valued, and that they truly belong."

We currently have some vacancies on our governing board for parent governors. We hope to advertise these positions very soon to all parents and carers. If governance at Aston Academy is something that may interest you, or if you would simply like to find out more, we will be sending further information next week.

Finally, from me, I thought of the quote below this week when speaking to our football teams as they boarded the coach to travel to their match. What is true for sport is also true for Aston Academy. September brings endless possibilities; we just need to grab them!

"There is something special about sport in September: fresh beginnings, warm sunshine, and endless possibilities."

Have a wonderful weekend.

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

Best regards,



Mr J Graham
Principal

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