

31 January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

***Reference: Consultation to close the sixth form provision at The Dukeries Academy from September 2025***

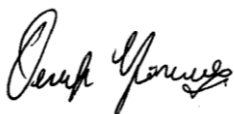
I am writing to inform you of the decision made at the Board of Trustees meeting on 21st January 2025, regarding the proposal for the closure of the sixth form provision from September 2025 at The Dukeries Academy.

During the meeting, the Trustees carefully evaluated all relevant information and rationale as well as the responses received as part of the consultation process. After thorough deliberation, the Trustees have agreed to proceed with the recommendation to close the sixth form provision. We have submitted a request to the Department for Education (DfE) for a Significant Change to alter the age range of the academy to 11-16 and a variation to the admission arrangements. The DfE will review the request and provide their final decision.

We are aware that the proposed closure has generated opposition locally. However, after considering all factors, we are confident that this decision is in the long-term best interests of current and future students at the academy. There is a substantial number of high-quality places available at other local provisions, and these institutions have expressed their commitment to working closely with us to ensure a smooth transition for our students.

We understand that this is a challenging decision for some, but we firmly believe that it is the right course of action to secure the future success and sustainability of the academy.

Yours sincerely,



Derek Trimmer  
Acting CEO