

18 July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Closure of The Dukeries Academy Sixth Form Provision

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

I am writing to share an important update regarding the future of our sixth form provision at The Dukeries Academy. The Department for Education's Regional Director has now formally approved our request to close the sixth form, effective from **1 September 2025**.

This decision has not been taken lightly. It follows a thorough review and consultation process, during which we carefully considered the long-term sustainability of our post-16 offer and how best to serve the needs of our students. As you may be aware, we did not admit a new Year 12 in 2024, and our final Year 13 students have now completed their studies and await their results in the summer.

While change can be unsettling, I want to reassure you that our commitment to your child's future remains unwavering. The DfE's approval comes with a clear expectation that we will provide robust and high-quality support to ensure every Year 11 student secures an appropriate and ambitious post-16 pathway—and we are fully committed to delivering on that promise.

We understand how important this stage is in your child's journey, and we have put in place a comprehensive programme of support, including:

- One-to-one careers guidance with our advisor to explore all available options.
- Post-16 provider events and information evenings to help students and families make informed choices.
- Application and interview support.
- Ongoing mentoring and tracking to ensure every student is on track and confident about their next steps.

We are proud of the resilience, ambition, and potential of our students, and we will continue to work closely with each of them—and with you—to ensure they are fully supported in making a successful transition beyond Year 11.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with a member of the team about your child's options, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are here to help.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and trust.

Kind regards



Mr M Brett
Principal