

KING EDWARD VI ASTON SCHOOL

Sixth Form Open Evening
5th November 2019

Staff you need to get to know

- ▶ Mr Sheergill–Assistant Head Teacher–Director of the Sixth Form
- ▶ Ms Searles–Head of Years 12 & 13
- ▶ Mr Amann–Deputy Head of Years 12 & 13 and Oxbridge Co–ordinator
- ▶ Mr Tamber–Head of Post–16 Careers & UCAS Co–ordinator
- ▶ Mr Smart–Assistant Head Teacher–Timetabler

The Entry Criteria

- ▶ 7 GCSE passes at grades 9–5 with at least three at grade 7+ including grade 6 passes or higher in English Language & Mathematics.
- ▶ Students are required to have a 6 or a 7+ pass in the subjects that they wish to study at A-Level, depending on their subject choice.

The sixth form curriculum at Aston

- ▶ 3 or 4 A-Level subjects
- ▶ Extended Project Qualification (optional)
- ▶ An afternoon of games
- ▶ Personal & Social Education

The Academic Pathways

All students will follow one of the four pathways

- ▶ Three A-Level subjects
- ▶ Three A-Level subjects plus the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- ▶ Four A-Level subjects
- ▶ Four A-Level subjects plus the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

A-Level subjects

- ▶ All A-Level subjects offered by the school will be two year linear courses.
- ▶ There are no modular courses or opportunities to re-sit.
- ▶ Coursework is limited to a small number of subjects.
- ▶ The school does not offer the reformed A/S Level in any subject.
- ▶ All students will sit a Year 12 examination during the second half of the summer term.

Extended Project Qualification (1)

- ▶ A 5000 word research study or a performance or artefact.
- ▶ Topic can be anything not covered by the A-Level syllabuses being studied by the student.
- ▶ Each student allocated a tutor.
- ▶ Started at the start of the spring term in Year 12 & finished by autumn term of Year 13.
- ▶ There is no cap on the number of students who can undertake the Extended Project Qualification.

Extended Project Qualification (2)

- ▶ Students likely to be applying for a university or course where interviews are used as part of the admissions procedure should take an EPQ.
- ▶ Evidence of interest in the subject area that you wish to study at university–chance to go beyond the A–Level syllabus.
- ▶ An opportunity to demonstrate your academic range.
- ▶ Highly regarded by an increasing number of universities.

Why study four A-Level subjects?

- ▶ Opportunity to broaden curriculum e.g. Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and a language or Music or Art or English Literature etc.
- ▶ What some students of comparable ability will be doing.
- ▶ To keep university course & career options open.
- ▶ Students studying Further Mathematics must study Mathematics and two other subjects.

But

- ▶ Virtually all university offers require passes in three A-Level subjects.
- ▶ A significant additional workload.
- ▶ The danger of just doing more of the same.
- ▶ An excuse for not making a decision.
- ▶ To study four A-Level subjects (not including Mathematics & Further Mathematics) students must have five or more GCSE passes at Grades 8 or 9
- ▶ To study Further Mathematics students must have a GCSE pass in Mathematics at Grade 8 or 9.

Alternate Thursday afternoons

- ▶ 19 afternoons per year
- ▶ An opportunity to do something different
- ▶ School based options
- ▶ Work experience placement
- ▶ Volunteering

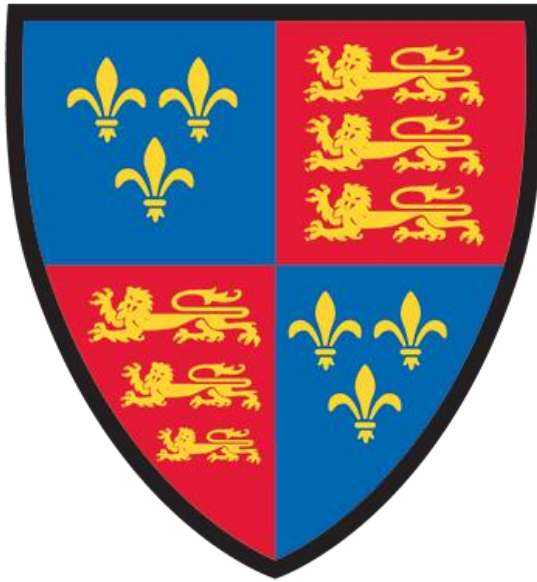
Entry in to the Sixth Form– Students joining Aston in Year 12

- ▶ Students wishing to be considered for a place must submit an application form by 31st January.
- ▶ Students whose predicted GCSE grades meet the entry requirements will be invited to visit the school & meet a member of the sixth form team.
- ▶ Having visited the school students will be informed if they will be offered a place at the school subject to them meeting the school's entry criteria.

Entry in to the Sixth Form– Current students

- ▶ Students wishing to progress into the sixth form must submit their subject choices by 31st January.
- ▶ Students whose predicted GCSE grades are below the entry requirements will be advised by senior staff.

Working Together



**THE KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**



**KING EDWARD VI
HANDSWORTH GRAMMAR
SCHOOL FOR BOYS**



**KING EDWARD VI
HANDSWORTH WOOD
GIRLS' ACADEMY**



**KING EDWARD VI
HANDSWORTH
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**



**KING EDWARD VI
ASTON SCHOOL**

Working together

- ▶ Art, Design Technology, Drama, French, German, Government & Politics, Music, & Sociology will be taught in collaboration.
- ▶ Teaching may all be in one school or shared across two.
- ▶ Common timetable structures exist between the schools–morning lessons.
- ▶ Transport provided between venues.

Working together– entry requirements

- ▶ These subjects likely to have smaller uptakes–teaching in smaller class groups.
- ▶ Entry requirements of a Grade 6+ for these subjects.

Working together–what should I do?

- ▶ Continue as for any other subject.
- ▶ Gather information about the course as you do for your other subjects.
- ▶ Talk to the relevant staff.
- ▶ Make your subject selection as you would for your non-collaboration subjects.

Some final thoughts (1)

- ▶ Where are you heading?–by this time in 2021 you are likely to have submitted your university application.
- ▶ Avoid three of the same–very few university courses stipulate three specific A–Level subjects.
- ▶ Get it right–changing courses during September & October can only put you at a disadvantage.
- ▶ Remember it is your future–take control & be able to justify your subject choices.
- ▶ The importance of the Year 12 examinations–University predicted grades, confirming what you know.

Some final thoughts (2)

- ▶ Challenging times between now & the GCSE examinations—make sure you let us know.
- ▶ If your GCSE results are not as expected do not despair but be prepared to change your original subject choices.

Further Information

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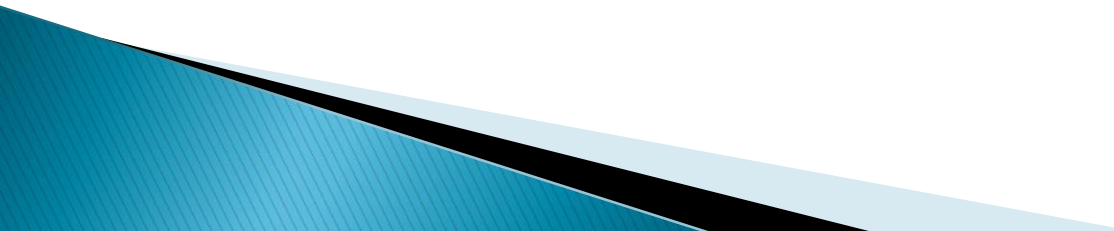
Mr Tamber h.tamber@keaston.bham.sch.uk

Mr Smart d.smart@keaston.bham.sch.uk

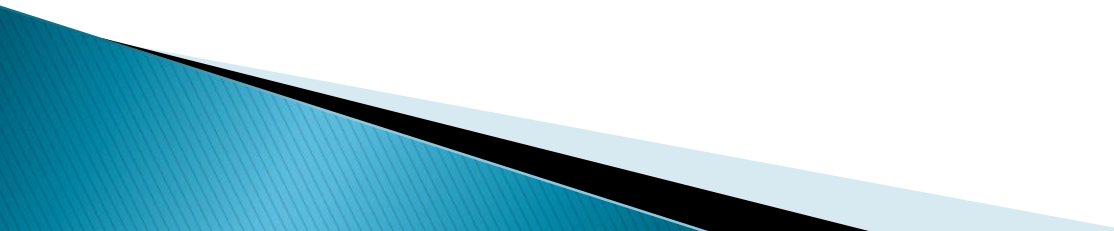
Ms Searles

Head of Sixth Form

What makes Aston unique?

- ▶ Induction
 - ▶ Teambuilding
 - ▶ Involvement
 - ▶ Attendance and Punctuality=95%
 - ▶ Independent Study & Time management
 - ▶ Wider Opportunities & UCAS
 - ▶ School Captain – Student Perspective
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What Support is available?

- ▶ Support – from peers, sixth form team and tutor
 - ▶ Vertical tutor group (12 and 13 combined)
 - ▶ Active PSHE lessons – get involved, take a lead, voice opinion and debate viewpoints and practise presentation skills
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How to feel part of the Sixth Form

- ▶ Induction events:
- ▶ Teambuilding – Trinity Road
- ▶ Involvement – listen out for opportunities form rep/council rep, mentoring, Duke of Edinburgh Award, lunchtime clubs....

Time management

- ▶ Attendance and Punctuality vital to ensure good grades
- ▶ 95% school expectation
- ▶ Independent Study – 3 x study rooms available
- ▶ Good time management essential
- ▶ Wider Opportunities – vast range

Looking ahead

- ▶ Senior Prefect status
- ▶ UCAS – bespoke programme rated highly amongst other grammar schools

School Captain Rayyan Hector