

All Saints Church of England Academy Sixth Form full closure consultation: Some facts and figures

How large is a viable sixth form?

A school or college sixth form has to be large enough to be viable and sustainable in order to be able to provide a wide enough range of high quality courses. It has been recognised that sixth forms with fewer than 200 students are unviable, particularly in the light of the more recent funding changes where sixth form provision is now funded per student, instead of per qualification. The implications of these reforms have meant that some providers have been forced to cut courses whilst others have been forced to close.

All Saints School has not had more than 200 in its Sixth Form since 2013-14 and numbers have dropped every year and are currently at 127. This means it is not a financially viable sixth form and has to be funded from other funding streams such as that for 11-16 students.

How many students choose the Sixth Form at All Saints?

Over the past 4 years between 60-70% of Y11 students choose to join the Sixth Form but the number in each Year 11 cohort has reduced therefore the number joining the Sixth Form has dropped:

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number in Year 12	126	104	73	83	78	50*

*applications as at 30 January 2018

Of these, over 50% participate in vocational courses with external providers and are not regularly on the school site.

Those students who do not join our Sixth Form take up opportunities at a wide range of post-16 providers across the city, including other sixth forms, apprenticeships and places at City College.

What would full closure mean for the current Year 12 students?

Students in Year 12 would progress, as normal, into Year 13 to complete their studies.

What would full closure mean for the current Year 11 students?

Students in Year 11 would be unable to continue their post-16 education at All Saints but would be supported by the academy in choosing the correct provision elsewhere. With this in mind we will be hosting a “Futures Evening” for students and their families on Monday the 14th May from 4.30pm-7.00pm. This event will provide students and their families with an opportunity to meet with a range of Post 16 providers as well as staff from the Academy in order to openly discuss the options available to them and to address any concerns that they may have. All Saints will remain part of the post-16 PLE Consortium and the partner schools (Lipson, Tor Bridge, Sir John Hunt, Marine Academy) have indicated a willingness to support Y11 students who might want to join them for post-16 study.

Students would also be free, as currently, to seek any other appropriate post-16 provision in the city and beyond.

What would full closure mean for other students in the academy?

Full closure would mean that the academy is able to ensure full resourcing of Years 7 – 11 as there will be no need to subsidise post-16 funding. Those students will also benefit from the expertise of staff whose sole focus is on delivering quality first teaching every lesson, every day. It also provides the academy with the capacity to continue its upward trajectory of school improvement, out of

Special Measures to become a good school of which students, staff, their families and the wider community can become rightly proud.

Implications for academy staff

The suspension of the Sixth Form will have no direct impact upon staffing as the school only offers a small range of A Levels (10 subjects) and staff can be deployed in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.

What actions will be taken to prepare for 2019-20?

As we move forward, we will ensure that all students from Years 7-11 receive high quality Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) so that they are able to make informed choices about the courses they want to study, thus allowing them to pursue the career paths of their choice. They will be supported throughout by academy staff, colleagues from a range of Post 16 providers as well as employers.

Response sheet

Please use this space to tell us your views about the proposed suspension of the Sixth Form at All Saints Church of England Academy:

This section asks you for some information that will help us analyse the results of the responses and to see who has taken part. You will not be identified by any of the information you provide.

I am a: (Please tick and complete all those that apply to you)

Parent/carer

Student

Governor

Staff Member

Other Please tell us: