Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy
Sixth Form
Consultation

From 25th January 2017 to 25th February 2017

Consultation on a proposal to close the sixth form at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy
Why we are proposing to close the Sixth Form:

The academy is increasing in popularity and is over-subscribed in Year 7 for the third consecutive year. We predict this will also be the case in 2017, for the fourth consecutive year.

We believe that the academy’s focus should be on continuing to improve the quality of education in Years 7 to 11.

Sixth form provision at the academy has always been very limited, and the intake is decreasing significantly.

There is a wealth of alternative Sixth Form provision within Sandwell and in the immediately surrounding area.

Pupils will continue to be able to apply to the Sixth Form at George Salter Academy, with which we have previously operated a Sixth Form consortium.

Purpose of and process for the consultation

Change of age range – to exclude Post 16 Provision

The trustees and governors are seeking your views on a proposal to close the Sixth Form at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy.

The proposal is that no new pupils will be admitted to Sixth Form in September 2017. Those pupils already in the Sixth Form will complete their courses. The Sixth Form will close in July 2018 when the current pupils in Year 12 complete their courses.

Staffing

We see the recruitment and retention of high quality staff as essential for the success our academy.

Many of our current staff have experience of teaching both pre and post 16 courses. All academy staff currently involved in the delivery of post 16 courses will have the opportunity to remain with the academy and work wholly on the delivery of pre 16 courses.
Next Steps

The governors of Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy and the trustees of Ormiston Academies Trust welcome comments from all stakeholders on the proposal set out in this paper. All views expressed during this consultation will be reported to and considered by the governors and trustees after the consultation period has ended.

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<td>Consultation Period</td>
<td>25\textsuperscript{th} January 2017 to 25\textsuperscript{th} February 2017</td>
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<td>Report on the consultation to governors and trustees for approval</td>
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<td>Consultation findings to the Education Funding Agency and the Regional Schools Commissioner</td>
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Consultation List

- Students on roll at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy
- Parents and carers of students on roll at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy
- Staff at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy
- Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
- Headteachers/Principals and Chairs of Governors of other Secondary schools, Academies and Special Schools
- Local Councillors
- Member of Parliament – Adrian Bailey MP
- Other community members who may be affected by the proposal
Consultation methods

Electronic survey for parents and students
Consultation form

Frequently asked questions

Will all pupils who are already in the Sixth Form at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy be able to complete their courses?
Yes, all current Sixth Form pupils in the academy whether in Year 12 or 13 will be able to complete their courses at the academy.

Will pupils in Years 11 and below who want to take advantage of a Sixth Form education still be able to do so?
Yes, there is sufficient, alternative Sixth Form provision of a high quality close to the academy so that all pupils who wish to do so will still be able to access a good Sixth Form education. We will continue to offer excellent Information, Advice and Guidance to enable them to make the right choices for them.

In future will pupils be able to access the same courses which have previously been offered at the academy?
Yes, all the courses currently offered by the academy are available elsewhere locally.

Will there be compulsory staff redundancies as a result of this change?
No, as the pupil numbers in the academy in Years 7 to 11 are increasing there are opportunities for all staff who currently teach in the Sixth Form to teach elsewhere in the academy should they wish to do so.

Is the decision to close the Sixth Form driven by the current financial constraints common to all academies?
No, the academy’s finances are robust and this decision is driven primarily by the decision to focus on providing the highest quality education in years 7 to 11.