

**Consultation on a proposal to formally close the sixth form at Bristnall Hall Academy**

**Why we are proposing to close the Sixth Form:**

There has not been sixth form provision at Bristnall Hall Academy since 2016-17. At that time, the numbers opting to join the sixth form meant that it was neither financially nor academically viable. The academy's sixth form continued until August 2017, when the provision was temporarily ceased, pending an annual review process. This was considered each year by Senior Leadership and Local Academy Committee members and the provision has continued suspended hiatus until the present date.

There are currently 14 secondary schools in the Sandwell Local Authority area with sixth forms (with three in the local vicinity of Bristnall Hall Academy (George Salter Academy, Sandwell Academy and Q3 Academy). There is also substantial provision for Post 16 studies within Sandwell, with significant investment in the college infrastructure over the past 3-5 years. There is also increasing pressure to provide additional 11 – 16 school places in Sandwell, which Bristnall Hall Academy is supporting through expansion of the existing Academy and having an on-site 6<sup>th</sup> form would impede our ability to offer these places.

The academy has agreed to take an increased PAN starting from September 2021. This will be a five-year increase on Year 7 students, increasing the yearly PAN of 190 to 210 per year group. This will result in an overall increase of PAN across the whole academy, within the five-year timescale to, 1050. Whilst the academy is having an additional building on site to support these additional students, a further sixth form provision would put additional strain on an already small site, and rooming/computer suites may not be possible to support the student's needs.

**Purpose of and process for the consultation**

*Change of age range – to exclude Post 16 Provision.*

**The Trustees of Academy Transformation Trust are seeking your views on the future of post-16 provision at Bristnall Hall Academy. The proposal is that the provision, which has not operated since 2016-17 should be formally closed. This will not impact upon any current students or staff members. This is also a formal consultation, therefore, in regard to the admissions arrangements for Bristnall Hall Academy, as it is proposed to remove the post-16 Published Admission Number (PAN) altogether.**

**Next steps**

The Trustees of Academy Transformation 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 Trustees after the consultation period has ended.

We especially invite comments from the following groups:

- parents of children between the ages of 2 and 18
- other persons in the area of each academy who have an interest in the proposed arrangements (stakeholders)
- all other admissions authorities within the local area
- the local authority (Sandwell Borough Council) and other neighbouring local authorities.

Please use the form overleaf to respond to the consultation.

**Timeline**

Consultation period ..... 27<sup>th</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Report on consultation to Trustees for approval ..... July 2021

Communication to the Education and Skills Funding Agency  
and the Regional Schools Commissioner for approval ..... July 2021

Implementation ..... September 2021