



Aston Manor Academy

All different • All equal • All achieving

PHILLIPS STREET, ASTON, BIRMINGHAM B6 4PZ TEL: 0121 359 8108 FAX: 0121 359 2426

EMAIL: enquiry@astonmanoracademy.com

WEBSITE: www.astonmanoracademy.com

HEADTEACHER: JILL SWEENEY



18th July 2024

Dear parents/carers,

We continue to be impacted by the closure of a large part of our school site, however I must report that students have been exceptional in dealing with the challenges this has meant for the school community. Works will be completed in the summer holidays, and we are expecting to fully open in September. To allow for staff to prepare the school for the return of pupils we have extended the summer break for pupils by one day. Therefore, the return to school timetable in September is detailed below.

Important dates

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 18 th July | Sixth Form finish for summer Holidays |
| Friday 19 th July | School closes for Summer Holidays, 12.00p.m |
| Thursday 15 th August | KS5 A Level Day/BTEC Vocational results day |
| Thursday 22 nd August | KS4 GCSE results day |

Start dates for September

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 2 nd September | Staff Training Day |
| Tuesday 3 rd September | Staff Training Day |
| Wednesday 4 th September | Staff Training Day |
| Thursday 5 th September | School starts for <u>new Year 7 ONLY</u> at 10.00a.m and Year 12/Year 13 enrolment |
| Friday 6 th September | All students return to school, 8.45am |

I must commend the Year 11 and 13 students for their excellent preparation and conduct during the exam season this year. Exams took place over two sites and students dealt with this impeccably. I am confident that students' results will be reflective of their hard work this summer. A reminder for you that GCSE results day is on Thursday 22nd August and A-level and vocational results for KS5 will be available on Thursday 15th August. Further information will be sent out about specific arrangements for the collection of results. I wish all of our students the very best of luck for their results.

As previously mentioned, Aston Manor Academy is due to be rebuilt over the next few years. We still do not have any details that I can share with you, however we are currently formulating our requests to put forward to the department for education for consideration. The school in its current state is not suitable to meet the growing needs of the community, however moving forward we would like to see the school building used for more than





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the education of students and would like to serve the local community. I would like to request any ideas from parents and community members about how we can make use of the school facilities to support the local community moving forward. It would be wonderful if we were able to provide sports facilities and community spaces, open our library or provide some adult education. If you would like to be part of a working group to support community ideas for the building please email enquiry@astonmanoracademy.com with the subject title "School building working group" so that you can be contacted. This is a fantastic opportunity to design a space that can be fully utilised outside of school hours and help the local community to thrive.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to a number of staff at the end of this term, some of whom have spent a lifetime working at Aston Manor Academy. Ms Lyn Latham (Head of Art) has been with the school since 1990, she has led the department for a number of years and has been a large part of our school life. Ms Latham has taught hundreds of children during her time here along with many parents and families. We wish her a very happy retirement.

Mr David Brown in the PE department is also retiring from teaching at Aston Manor Academy since 2000. Mr Brown over the years has held the roles of Head of PE, Director of Sport Academy and has over the last few years dedicated himself to the highly successful basketball academy. Aston Manor Academy has always had a high profile across the city when it comes to our sporting performance and I want to thank Mr Brown for the many hours of extra-curricular activities that he has provided for our children, with some going on to be highly successful sports performers. Mr Brown will continue to work with Aston Basketball and our sixth form basketballers.

Ms Green in the English department has worked at Aston Manor Academy for the last 17 years and is leaving us to take on new challenges at another Birmingham School. Ms Green has contributed greatly to the English department's success during her time here, and we would like to send our very best wishes to Ms Green in her new role.

Ms Jones, one of our senior leaders is also moving into a new role within the academy. Ms Jones is taking a position within the trust itself and will be leading on Teaching and Learning Innovation. We wish her every success in this new role.

I would also like to send our best wishes to Mr Connell (PE), Ms Shokar (Business), Mr Goodlet (RE) as they move on to pastures new. All of whom have been part of the school's success over the last 7 years, we are always sad to see staff leave, but these staff have been inspirational to our students and have been highly dedicated to ensuring that our students have always received the very best education whilst at Aston Manor Academy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following staff for their support during their short time here, it has been very much appreciated by myself and the students. Mr Higgins, Ms Bhanu, Mr Shergill, Ms Begum, Ms Mortlock, Mr Bashir, Ms Hathi, Ms Wilkes and Mr Lycett will all be leaving us this term. I am pleased to say that we are fully staffed for September, and we look forward to starting the year afresh in our new school building.

We have a lot of lost uniform, PE kit and items in general that we will display for students on Thursday afternoon and Friday. After this time this will be either taken for re-use by the school or items given to charity. If you are looking for specific items, please contact the main reception.





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School reports have been sent out in the post and are available for you to see via MCAS. Please go through this with your child and discuss any areas for improvement.

We have started to work with Year 10 in the last few weeks as they transition into Year 11 on the expectations for them over the coming year. Many students will have an academic mentor throughout the year who will introduce themselves to you and support the children with their revision and encourage them to do their best. We know the biggest factor for academic success for students is to attend school every day, as those with the best attendance make the most progress. I ask for your support in ensuring that attendance is your highest priority for students to enable them to make the most of their time at school. A letter detailing new government guidance on attendance will be sent out. Please take note of the rules around holidays in term-time and the consequences for this. We encourage all students to attend every day. Please contact school if there are any issues which are impacting on your child's attendance, so that we can support where necessary.

In preparation for the return to school in September please can I remind you of our uniform expectations, which can be found in the school planner. Hair styles should be appropriate for school with no letters/numbers/lines and should be a natural colour. Make up and fake eyelashes should not be worn, and students will be asked to remove these if these are seen in school. Students are allowed to wear small earrings and one small nose stud. When buying school shoes please look for shoes, and not trainers, as these will not be allowed, trousers should be loose and not fitted. Thank you for your support with uniform, good conduct starts with high uniform expectations and there will be a focus on this when we return in September. If you are in doubt as to whether an item is allowed in school, please contact the school office over the summer.

Finally, I would like to thank our families for supporting the school over the past year, I am grateful that throughout our recent challenges, our parents have been understanding, and that you have remained supportive and engaged with your child's education.

We wish all of our families a very happy, enjoyable and safe summer, and we look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Have a great summer.

J Sweeney
Headteacher





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SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024-2025

| AUTUMN TERM 2024 | SPRING TERM 2025 | SUMMER TERM 2025 |
|---|---|--|
| Monday 2 nd September 2024 | Monday 6 th January 2025 | Monday 28 th April 2025 |
| To | To | To |
| Friday 25 th October 2024 | Friday 14 th February 2025 | Friday 23 rd May 2025 |
| HALF TERM | HALF TERM | HALF TERM |
| Monday 4 th November 2024 | Monday 24 th February 2025 | Monday 2 nd June 2025 |
| To | To | To |
| Friday 20 th December 2024 | Friday 11 th April 2025 | Monday 21 st July 2025 |

