

Friday 18th December 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian

Doncaster Collegiate Sixth Form – Response to the Doncaster Council Post 16 Review: Consultation 3

In September 2017, a review of the Post 16 provision in Doncaster was conducted and the recommendations of the review have been put to the Principals of all Doncaster Secondary Schools to develop a new curriculum offer for Doncaster. The review has been published on the Doncaster Council website and can be found here: <http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/post-16-review-2018>

The main recommendations of the review are as follows:

1. Consolidation of school sixth forms In Doncaster
2. Inclusion
3. Extending careers education, information, advice and guidance
4. Strengthening the vocational routes into employment and higher education

In the last two years we have seen the closure of Sixth Forms at Armthorpe, Mexborough and Hayfield, Rossington All Saints, De Warrene and Ash Hill and the opening of New College, XP Post 16 and Doncaster UTC.

Consultation 1

In 2018 we consulted with you on two options for the Sixth Form provision at the Delta Academies in Doncaster and Bassetlaw from September 2020.

1. Close all Post 16 provision and centralise in a new 16-19 Free School
2. Close all Post 16 provision except Don Valley Academy and centralise in the Sixth Form Centre.

The outcome of the consultation was to apply to the DFE for a new central 16-19 Sixth Form College, but this was rejected and so in September 2020 we moved to option 2 which was to centralise the Sixth Forms at Don Valley Academy.

Consultation 2

In September 2020, we received zero applications into Year 12 and the current Sixth Form is made up of Year 13 students only. Since this decision was made, the Covid 19 Pandemic occurred and as a Trust we decided to consult again with the current Year 11 to try and preserve the Sixth Form at Don Valley. We have surveyed Year 11 and of those who returned the form, zero students have listed Don Valley as wither their first or second choice Post 16 application and so it is with a heavy heart we must consult on the potential closure of the Sixth Form at Don Valley Academy.

Stage 1 – Read and Reflect

Please can we ask parents to read the information on the academy website here

<https://www.donvalleyacademy.org.uk/post-16> our consultation process will follow the timeline below.

Timeline for Proposed Closure of the Sixth Form

Action	Proposed Timeline
Stage 1	
Consultation Period Commences	Friday 18th December 2020
Stage 2	
Public Meeting	Thursday 14th January 2021 from 5..30pm-6.30pm
Consultation Period Closes	Friday 29th January 2021
Stage 3	
Consultation Findings to the Trust for Approval	January 2021
Recommendations to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) & Regional Schools Commissioner	February 2021
Publication of Final Decision and Full Consultation Report	End February 2021
Decision of Secretary of State	Summer Term 2021
Stage 4	
Implementation	September 2021

Stage 2 Engage and Consider

After the holidays and parents have had chance to read the proposal and supporting documents, and engage and consider the proposal and its implications. This input is vital for the board and the government to consider when making their final decision.

We are committed to raising the aspirations of our students and it is our intention that we would continue to work with our partners in both Further and Higher Education to ensure that our students are able to contribute to the economic success of Doncaster and in its place in the Sheffield City Region. We are also committed to Independent Advice & Guidance and ensuring our students can access the right Post 16 curriculum at one of the Colleges, Sixth Forms or Training Provider in Doncaster to ensure their aspirations are met.

We look forward to receiving your input in the consultation process.

Yours sincerely



Jamie McMahon
Regional Director of Post 16 Education