



11th March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

I write to inform you that we have taken the difficult decision to suspend entry to the sixth form for all courses in the 2019-20 academic year. I can confirm that our partner course with Birmingham City Football Club will however be unaffected.

I understand that this will be upsetting for the Year 11 students who had hoped to stay on at sixth form in September 2019. However, this is not a decision that we have taken lightly, and I have outlined our reasons below.

Why are we taking this decision now?

Given the disappointing outcome of our most recent Ofsted inspection, our focus must now firmly be on the Shenley students in key stage 3 and key stage 4. In order to achieve this, we must be absolutely focused on improving the quality of teaching and ensuring that underperformance is tackled quickly in years 7-11.

Furthermore, given the small number of Year 11 students planning to stay on at sixth form in September (just half of the year group has applied for sixth form entry), we are unable to offer a wide-range of A level courses. We would be doing these sixth form students a disservice as a lack of post-16 options could in turn serve to narrow the further and higher education options available to them in two years' time.

Who is this most likely to impact?

The decision to suspend entry to the sixth form in September 2019 will most directly affect the Year 11 applicants who have applied for 2019 entry.

Those students who attend the sixth form as part of our partnership with Birmingham City Football Club are however unaffected.

We will provide one-to-one support

Students who have applied for entry to Shenley sixth form in September 2019 will be closely supported to find suitable alternative provision in the local area. Affected students and their families will be contacted directly and will be invited to the academy for one-to-one interviews with the senior leadership team and our careers adviser over the next two weeks. We will also be contacting our local post-16 providers so that they are also ready to support you.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with Mr Berry using the email address matthew.berry@e-act.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joanna Hall'.

Joanna Hall
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