

SIXTH FORM HANDBOOK 2022/23



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PRINCIPAL WELCOME

I am delighted to introduce the Aston University Sixth Form Year 12 Handbook. This handbook contains essential information and links you will need to support your transition to our UTC.

Life at Aston University Sixth Form is both exciting and rewarding with possibly the largest range of opportunities and experiences available in any college. Our unique approach ensures our young people are equipped with the right skills and knowledge for a career in Engineering, Science and Business at all levels. We combine exciting and innovative learning through our partnerships with Aston University and industry and an ethos built around high expectations and aspirations.

We welcome you to our UTC at a milestone point celebrating our 10 year anniversary and having been awarded £4.3 million this year by the Secretary of State for

Education for our new extension, we continue to grow and develop our commitment to Birmingham's young people and families as a world-class centre or excellence in Engineering, Health, Science and Business.

With the announcement of demand by 2033 for 1.8 million engineers, 3 million scientists along with business, finance and accounting rapidly increasing across the West Midlands at both Apprenticeship and Graduate level, there has never been a better time to study at Aston University Sixth Form. The key to our success is the close partnership with industry. Evidence shows that students who receive 4+ employer interactions are both 5 times more likely to secure a job and will earn nearly 20% more than those who have not had these employer experiences at school. Consequently we continue to lead national best practice in the new careers benchmarks as well as shaping the development of the new T-Levels.

This role with industry continues to grow and expand and will result in our new year 10 having more opportunities to excel and stand out than any other year group prior, especially with our expanding partnership with Jacobs and other Birmingham STEM industries. I can't wait to see what your child can achieve over the next few years and I am extremely proud that you have chosen to be part of this exciting opportunity.

Daniel Locke-Wheaton, Principal

Welcome to Aston University Sixth Form; a hub for achievement, opportunity and experiences within the science and engineering fields.

I am very proud of our Sixth Form students. The succession of our Year 13's progressing to University, Apprenticeships or Employment is exceptional. This is a testament to the quality of Post 16 teaching alongside the numerous industrial and personal development opportunities our students receive; thus giving them a head start into their future careers.

I am confident that our state of the art science and engineering facilities coupled with the BTEC and A Level STEM pathways will provide our students with personalised pathways to achieve their aspirations. Alongside this, our strong industry links cannot be overlooked and are part of 'what makes Aston University Sixth Form different'. Our sixth form students have a plethora of opportunities to work with partners such as Jacobs, Collins Aerospace, RAF, Jacobs, Aston University and many more.

Our motto in the sixth form is 'Make Yourself Different' because we realise academic excellence as well as wider enrichment activities are required to secure outstanding destinations. We expect all of our students to take part in enrichment activities such as projects, sports and STEM competitions. Not only do these activities help to mould our students into well rounded citizens but also encourage a sense of pride and belonging within the Sixth Form.

Finally, Aston University Sixth Form and myself are committed to supporting every student that pursues their studies with us and I am confident that together, we will nurture our students into becoming highly successful STEM professionals.

I look forward to working with you in the next academic year.

Cathy Bedney, Assistant Principal Sixth Form

Aston University Sixth Form Mission Statement

Aston University Sixth Form will be nationally recognised as a centre of excellence in providing the very best engineering, science, business and technical education for successful and rewarding careers. In order to develop and achieve our aim of becoming a world class centre of excellence in engineering, science and business we must continually strive to do the following:

- Work in partnership with our students, their parents, the University, regional and national employers, the professional bodies, local schools and the community.
- Have high aspirations and expectations of its staff and students in both professional and personal development.
- Foster values that equip students for success.
- Provide students with opportunities to gain industry placements, further support from University mentors and wider enrichment for skill development.
- Create an inspirational learning community whereby everyone is empowered to be a learner, a teacher and a leader.
- Develop and deliver a challenging and innovative employer led curriculum that is applied and focused on the industrial and business world to prepare students for Employment, Apprenticeships or Higher Education.
- Involve staff and students in the continuous improvement of life in the Sixth Form, through reflection, research and publication of practice.

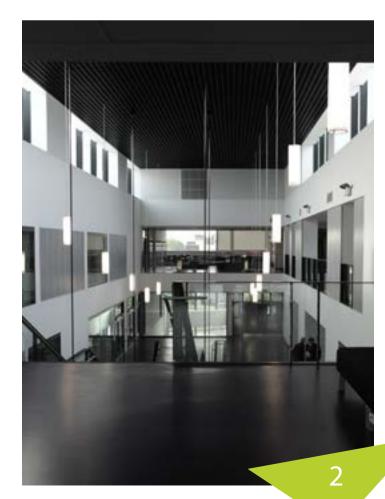
Aston University Sixth Form Learning Ethos

The ethos for our learning community is built upon our core values (7 R's) of:

- Resilience
- Resourcefulness
- Reflectiveness
- Reciprocity
- Role Model
- ReadinessRespectfulness

Students are trained from day one to be effective learners and all lessons are constructed to drive our Learning Outputs so that everyone is a:

- Learner
- Leader
- Teacher
- Entrepreneur
- Employee
- Global citizen
- Engineer



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Why Aston University sponsors our sixth form

Aston University was the obvious choice for the first University Technical College back in 2010 and this led to the subsequent opening of Aston University Engineering Academy (AUEA) in 2012. The success of AUEA, especially with the high numbers



and calibre of students graduating onto undergraduate and apprenticeships in Engineering and Science, resulted in AUEA's sixth form being renamed Aston University Sixth Form in 2016.

We are very proud of being Aston University's sixth form. Recently listed as one of the top universities in the country and one of only a few ranked Gold in the new teaching excellence standards, we share core values in excellence, commitment to employer partnerships and outstanding graduate careers.

Rated 5 OS stars and part of only 1% of universities with a triple accredited business school, it is not surprising that they achieve an 89% Student Satisfaction score (one of the highest in the UK).



Students who attend Aston University Sixth Form, have the opportunity to work with universty staff, as part of their courses and can apply for special workshops and placements at the University. 100% of students who have applied to Aston University from our sixth form have been offered places since our first leavers in 2014. Some of the most popular destinations are Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering. With health science booming at Aston University with Pharmacy, Optometry and the Medical School, there has never been a better time to study science.



BIRMINGHAM'S UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Aston University Sixth Form is part of Birmingham's University Technical College (UTC). As a UTC we deliver an innovative, high-quality education that combines technical, practical and academic learning. In doing so, we offer our students more than the traditional A Level curriculum.

This makes our students more attractive to universities and apprenticeships and explains why our destination data is outstanding.

By integrating three types of learning – technical, practical and academic – UTCs create an environment where all students can find their strengths and specialise in subjects that interest and engage them.

As part of their study, students participate in projects with the UTC's employer partners in real working environments, where they can apply their technical skills and creative thinking.

Aston University Engineering Academy is partnered with many employers including:







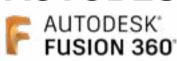


















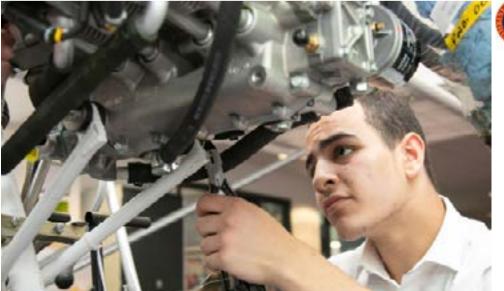






It is the impact of our partners that make studying at AUEA so significant. Our partners guide our executive board and staff on how the curriculum can best contain the skills to ensure that you meet their future employer needs. They get hands on in the academy, running workshops, providing career support and donating specialist equipment that many schools can only dream of. Probably the most significant contribution is work related learning and work placements. Statistics show that a student who has had 4+ employer interactions is 5 x more likely to have a job and will earn over 18% more than those with less interactions. We provide time every Wednesday to allow students to participate in employer based projects and where possible apply for extended placements. In fact many of our students return year on year to the same employer and have secured both university sponsorship as well as employment.

In 2017 we were delighted to be awarded the Armed Forces Covenant and the Gold Award in 2021 in recognition of our significant military partnerships. As well as receiving specialist training and opportunities to join our CCF or build a plane project, our graduates have access to fast track Apprenticeships starting on an incredible £31,000 per year at 18 years old.











AUEA LEADERSHIP

We seek at all times to provide parents, staff and pupils with a clear vision of AUEA's aims and ethos, underpinned by efficient and attentive management, to enable the smooth and successful operation of all aspects of AUEA life. The Principal has executive responsibility for day to day management of the school, in line with AUEA policies and procedures. The Principal leads the senior leadership team supported and accountable to the Academy Governors to monitor and lead AUEA development.



Mr D Locke-Wheaton Principal principalpa@auea.co.uk



Mr D Chapman Vice Principal david.chapman@auea.co.uk



Mrs R Sorsby Assistant Principal Curriculum & Assessment ruth.sorsby@auea.co.uk



Mrs R Acton Assistant Principal Learner Development ruth.acton@auea.co.uk

Mr N Scott

Chair of Governors

clerk@auea.co.uk



Miss C Bedney Assistant Principal Sixth Form cathy.bedney@auea.co.uk



Mr P Woodage Director of Partnerships and Placements sukhvinder.ubhi@auea.co.uk karen.byng@auea.co.uk peter.woodage@auea.co.uk



Director of Learning



Director of Engineering



Director of Science john.branch@auea.co.uk



Mrs A Farah Curriculum Area Leader Mathematics ayan.farah@auea.co.uk grace.peters-clarke@auea.co.uk francesca.matthews@auea.co.uk



Mrs G Peters-Clarke Curriculum Area Leader English



Mrs F Matthews-Pipe Curriculum Area Leader Social Science



Mrs A Kaye Business Manager amanda.kaye@auea.co.uk



Mr J Allibone Facilities Manager jason.allibone@auea.co.uk



Miss H Walklett Admissions and Marketing Manager helen.walklett@auea.co.uk

KEY DATES & TIMES

STUDENT WEEK

DAY	START	FINISH
	TIME	TIME
Monday	08:40	15:00
Tuesday	08:40	16:00
Wednesday	08:40	16:00
Thursday	08:40	16:00
Friday	08:40	15:00

AUEA building opens to students at 07:45

Students must be off site by 16:00 Monday and Friday and 17:00 Tuesday - Thursday

STUDENT DAY

ACTIVITY	TIME		
Lesson 1	08.40 - 09.40		
Lesson 2	09.40 - 10.40		
Break	10.40 - 11.00		
Learning Review	11.00 - 11.30		
Lesson 3	11.30 - 12.30		
Lunch	12.30 - 13.00		
Lesson 4	13.00 - 14.00		
Lesson 5	14.00 - 15.00*		
Lesson 6	15.00 - 16.00		
End of Lessons *Lessons end at 15:00 on a Monday and Friday			



KEY DATES & TIMES

AUEA 2022 - 2023 TERM DATES

	TERM	START DATE	FINISH DATE
Autumn		Thursday 1st September *	Wednesday 19th October *
	Half Term Holiday	Thursday 20th October	Friday 28th October
		Monday 31st October	Friday 16th December
	Christmas Holiday	Monday 19th December	Monday 2nd January 2023
Spring		Tuesday 3rd January *	Friday 17th February
	Half Term Holiday	Monday 20th February	Friday 24th February
		Monday 27th February	Friday 31st March
	Easter Holiday	Monday 3rd April	Friday 14th April
Summer		Monday 17th April	Friday 26th May
	Half Term Holiday	Monday 29th May	Friday 2nd June
		Monday 5th June	Tuesday 25th July*

Important dates:

Tuesday 6th September Year 9 Induction Day 1

(Years 10, 11 and 13 home learning until

Friday 9th September)

Wednesday 7th September Year 9 Induction Day 2 and Year 12 Induction Day 1

Thursday 8th September Year 9 Induction Day 3 and Year 12 Induction Day 2

Friday 9th September Year 10, 11 and 13 return

(Year 9 and 12 not at AUEA)

Monday 12th September All year groups in school

* Teacher training days and UTC Closures:

Thursday 1st September 2022 Friday 2nd September 2022 Monday 5th September 2022 Wednesday 19th October 2022 Tuesday 3rd January 2023 Monday 24th July 2023 Tuesday 25th July 2023 Teacher Training Day Teacher Training Day



CONTACT DETAILS & PROCEDURES

Regular and easy communication between home and AUEA is a vital requirement to support the progress of your son or daughter and is even more imperative with our longer business hours. We welcome opportunities for parents to come into the Academy or to speak on the phone and our staff will always be available to help. AUEA has three branches for communication with home, underpinned by the Academy College system and Learner Development Team.

Main Reception				
Learning Review Tutor	Curriculum Areas			
College				

Reception operates from 08:00-16:00 on Monday and Friday, 08:00-17:00 Tuesday-Thursday. Reception can be contacted via enquiries@auea.co.uk or 0121 380 0570. To ensure that we can quickly and effectively deal with your enquiry, please clearly state your child's name and the enquiry/person you wish to make an appointment with. We will then arrange a meeting to suit both yourself and the relevant member of staff.

Each student has a dedicated tutor with which they meet each day to review their learning, individual progress and targets. The tutor is responsible for supporting and tracking the overall academic progress of their tutees and is therefore the first point of call for information. All our tutors have a teaching timetable and consequently, the best communication method is email. You should expect to have a response within 48hrs. If this is not achieved, please contact principalpa@auea.co.uk and we will escalate.

To contact your son/daughter's teacher or Leader in a specific Curriculum Area, please use either email or phone. Staff details are found on the following page.

REPORTING ABSENCE

You and your son/daughter have selected to come to a University Technical College to allow them to gain opportunities that they would not gain at a standard sixth form. These additional opportunities and qualifications are only possible through students following a longer working day and one additional learning week each year. It is therefore imperative that students do not take any time off school. Holidays are not permitted in term time. Students wishing to observe official religious holidays should request leave via the authorised permission form.

Should your child become ill and is unable to attend Aston University Sixth Form, you should notify AUEA via the main reception telephone number and select option 1.

CURRICULUM AREAS

ENGINEERING

Mrs K Byng karen.byng@auea.co.uk

- >Design & Technology
- >Digital Skills
- >Electronics >Engineering
- Zengineering
- >Product Design >Art and Design

SCIENCE

Mr J Branch john.branch@auea.co.uk

- >Biology
- >Physics
- >Chemistry

MATHEMATICS

Mrs A Farah ayan.farah@auea.co.uk

- ayan.nanan@aaca.co.an
- >Core Mathematics
 >Engineering Mathematics
- >Mathematics
- >Further Mathematics

ENGLISH

Mrs G Peters-Clarke grace.peters-clarke@auea.co.uk

>English Language >English Literature

SOCIAL SCIENCE

<u>Mrs F Matthews-Pipe</u> francesca.matthews@au<u>ea.co.uk</u>

- >Business Studies
- >History
- >Media
- >Modern Foreign Language
- >Religious Studies
- >Geography

CONTACT DETAILS & PROCEDURES

CONTACT INFORMATION

Senior Leadership Team (See Leadership page)

CA Engineering To reach an Engineering teacher by phone dial 0121 559 0291

Mrs K Byng - Director (Leadership Page)

Miss K Banton - Engineering Technician kerrian.banton@auea.co.uk

Mr D Chapman - Leadership Page

Mr G Distin - Teacher of Mathematics & Engineering garfield.distin@auea.co.uk

Mrs J Dransfield - Vocational Administrator ioanne.dransfield@auea.co.uk

Mr S Hassan - Teacher of Engineering shamim.hassan@auea.co.uk

Mr A Hewitt - Product Design Subject Leader andrew.hewitt@auea.co.uk

Mr P Panesar - Teacher of Engineering & D&T prabhjot.panesar@auea.co.uk

Mr U Patel - Teacher of Mathematics & Engineering urvish.patel@auea.co.uk

Mr C Smith - Engineering Lead Practitioner chris.smith@auea.co.uk

Mrs R Sorsby - Leadership Page

Mr M Tarig - Teacher of Engineering muhammed.tariq@auea.co.uk

Mr L Turturici - Engineering Lead Practitioner leonardo.turturici@auea.co.uk

Mrs C Watson-Baker - Art & Design Subject Leader charlotte.baker@auea.co.uk

Mr L Witham - Teacher of Engineering liam.witham@auea.co.uk

Mr P Woodage - Leadership Page

CA Science

To reach a science teacher by phone dial 0121 599 0295

Mr J Branch - Director (Leadership Page)

Ms S Rahman - Assisant CAL/Advanced Skills Practitioner/Head of BTEC Science shehla.rahman@auea.co.uk

Mr J Heap - Assistant Curriculum Area Leader james.heap@auea.co.uk

Mrs R Hill - Physics Subject Leader rebecca.hill@auea.co.uk

Miss K Kaur - Science Technician kuldip.kaur@auea.co.uk

Miss R Khatun - Teacher of Chemistry rubina.khatun@auea.co.uk

Mr P Kundalia - Teacher of Biology/ ITT Leader prashant.kundalia@auea.co.uk

Miss N Latif - Biology Subject Leader nabila.latif@auea.co.uk

Mrs R Malhi - Teacher of Science rachna.malhi@auea.co.uk

Miss K Sohal - Senior Science Technician kulwinder.sohal@auea.co.uk

Dr S Ubhi - Leadership Page

CA English

To reach an English teacher by phone dial 0121 599 0294

Mrs Peters-Clarke - CAL (Leadership Page)

Mrs Acton - Leadership Page

Mr M Coulson - English Literature Coordinator michael.coulson@auea.co.uk

Mrs C Jacobs - SENDCo catherine.jacobs@auea.co.uk

Miss M Kasher - Teacher of English mominah.kasher@auea.co.uk

Mrs S Jones - Teacher of English & KS3 Coordinator sarah.jones@auea.co.uk

CA Maths

To reach a Maths teacher by phone dial 0121 599 0293

Mrs A Farah - CAL (Leadership Page)

Miss A Blake - KS3/4 Coordinator angela.blake@auea.co.uk

Mrs P Kaur - Assistant CAL - KS5 Leader paramjit.kaur@auea.co.uk

Mr D Osoba - Teacher of Mathematics daniel.osoba@auea.co.uk

Mr U Patel - Teacher of Mathematics & Engineering urvish.patel@auea.co.uk

Mr G Distin - Teacher of Mathematics & Engineering garfield.distin@auea.co.uk

Mrs Z Sahota - Subject Leader for Education for Mathematics

CA Social Science

To reach a Social Science teacher by phone dial 0121 599 0295

Mrs F Matthews-Pipe - CAL (Leadership Page)

Miss C Bedney - Leadership Page

Mr M Clayton - Teacher of P.E matt.clayton@auea.co.uk

Mr M Coulson - Teacher of History michael.coulson@auea.co.uk

Mrs K Hyman - MFL Subject Leader klara.hyman@auea.co.uk

Mrs C Jacobs - Teacher of Philosophy & Ethics catherine.jacobs@auea.co.uk

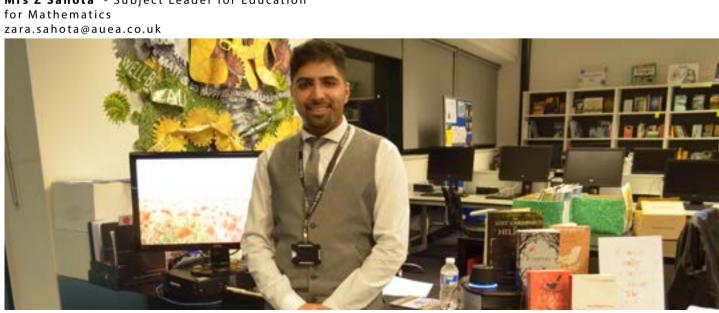
Miss N Kousar - Business Studies Subject Leader neelam.kousar@auea.co.uk

Mr A Spence - Teacher of Business Studies & iMedia adam.spence@auea.co.uk

Ms L Varccianna - Teacher of Business Studies lvnette.varccianna@auea.co.uk

Mrs H Liu - Mandarin Subject Lead Mrs L Yang - Teacher of Mandarin klara.hyman@auea.co.uk





TRAVEL

BIRMINGHAM'S CLEAN AIR ZONE





LORD STREET

Every year air pollution contributes to the premature deaths of up to 1000 people in Birmingham through conditions such as cancer, heart and lung disease. To improve air quality within the city, Birmingham will introduce a Category D Clean Air Zone on Tuesday 1st June 2021 and charge owners of the most polluting vehicles to drive within certain parts of the city centre.

Aston University Engineering Academy is just within the chargeable zone (charged at £8.00 per day).

You can check online if you vehicle is compliant:

Drive in a clean air zone - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

If your car is not compliant, you will be charged for dropping off or collecting your child from AUEA. Consequently, we recommend either using public transport or dropping your child safely, outside the Clean Air Zone, where safe crossings exist e.g. Lord Street. Parents should not drop students on the Ring road/Dartmouth Middleway directly.

BY CAR

PARKING

Due to our Birmingham city centre location and to maximise the size of the building and facilities for our students, AUEA only has a small private car park. This has limited space for staff and visitors and therefore parents attending meetings with a member of staff should source alternative parking. However, if you require a disabled car parking space please contact AUEA Main Reception. There is alternative pay car parking nearby within 5 minutes' walk of our site. We also recommend that visitors use public transport wherever possible.

Aston University offer a limited amount of Pay and Display parking on a first come first served basis. This facility is in Car Park 5 which is located off Holt Street, B7 4BH (within the clean air zone - charges apply if vehicle is not compliant)

There is a pay and display machine located within the car park (coins only). Parking charges are £5.50 per visit. You can now pay by phone using the 'JustPark' system. See the Green and Black signs on the car park for full details.

DROPPING OFF

AUEA does not have a designated drop off point due to its location on the large Aston University Campus therefore parents should always ensure students are dropped off in a suitable and safe location around the campus. The student entrance is located on Love Lane and this is the safest place for drop off. (Love Lane is located within the clean air zone - charges apply if vehicle is not compliant). Alternative locations are on either side of Aston Street and outside the Sack of Potatoes pub on Woodcock Street. This is by kind arrangement with the University, therefore, we request that parents are courteous to users when pulling over and that students conduct themselves to the highest standard when walking around campus.

Parents should not drop their child off on Lister Street immediately outside AUEA or at the pull in area for National College for Advanced Transport & Infrastructure (NCATI).

BY BUS

Over a hundred buses pass within 5 minutes of AUEA. To get the latest up to date information on routes and stops across Birmingham please visit:

http://www.networkwestmidlands.com

CANALS

There is an extensive canal network around Birmingham. Canal towpaths can offer quick routes across the city. However, these routes can also be isolated therefore we don't recommend students walking alone along canal routes. Canal and water safety should also be followed and at no point should students enter any water, play around locks or interfere with canal equipment or boats.

CYCLING

AUEA has 34 dedicated cycle spaces for students. If your child wishes to cycle to and from AUEA, a cycle pass needs to be obtained. To obtain this pass, your child will have to demonstrate that they have a lock to use, and that a spare key for the lock is handed into the Academy, inside a labelled (child's name, College and Tutor) envelope. Students who are cycling also need to demonstrate that they use a cycle helmet. For information on West Midlands Cycle Hire, please visit:

https://www.wmcyclehire.co.uk/#how-to-ride

SCOOTERS

VOI e-scooters are being trialled in Birmingham however they are legal for over 18 year olds only with a provisional driving license. The scooters can only ride in places where people can ride bicycles such as roads and cycle lanes. They cannot be ridden on pavements.

E-scooters are legally available to purchase but it's currently against the law to ride a privately owned one in any public place in the UK. This includes roads, pavements, parks, within town centres or canal towpaths.

Riding personal scooters risk having the scooter confiscated by police and destroyed.

WALKING

Whether your child is cycling, walking from home, the bus stop or the train station, we understand the importance of their safety within a city. Students will be trained in personal safety and road safety as part of their induction into the Academy.

With the new crossings around campus and especially across James Watt Queensway, there should not be any need for students to use subways or underpasses. All students are required to register their mode of transport to and from AUEA, to allow us to monitor and group students into travel parties. Staff members are also commuting by public transport and will be around the city centre before and after school. If you have any specific concerns about a route or change mode of transport, please notify AUEA immediately.

BY TRAIN

AUEA is within 10mins walk of: Snow Hill train/metro station and Moor Street Train station. It is 15 mins walk from New Street Station.

GOING OFFSITE

At any point during the day, students must sign in and out at main reception using their ID card.

Students may arrive later at Aston University Sixth Form or leave earlier if they have independent study.

SIXTH FORM LIFE

Life at Aston University Sixth Form is based around independence, responsibility and respect. It is a thriving community with a strong feeling of togetherness and team work between students and teachers alike.

A reflection of this is the appointment of a Student Leadership Team led by our Head Students within the Sixth Form.

There are numerous opportunities for our students to develop their character and personal skills beside their academic journey. This includes our strong involvement with National competitions such as:





Duke of Edinburgh Award

Year 12 students have the chance to apply to join our outstanding DofE teams at Gold Level, regardless of previous experience with DofE. Led by wonderful staff and previous students, you will undertake expeditions in the Brecon Beacons and Dartmoor along with climbing trips, and completing Volunteering, Physical, Skill and Residential sections of the award.

See www.dofe.org for more information. It is hard work for Gold but the outcome is a prestigious award that makes your CV stand out- as well as the chance to go to Buckingham Palace to be presented with your award.







FOOD @ ASTON UNIVERSITY SIXTH FORM

Aston University Sixth Form understands the impact of a student's diet on their ability to learn effectively. With students working longer days and travelling across the city, it is vital students have access to good quality, healthy food. Therefore Aston University Sixth Form has a professional catering team within a dedicated restaurant to meet each student's needs. We have a wide range of menus throughout the week.

Should you have any specific dietary requirements or food allergies we request that you notify Aston University Sixth Form at the earliest opportunity. Students are also able to bring sandwiches and packed lunches which are also to be eaten in the restaurant. No takeaway food is allowed to be brought into AUEA.





SPORT @ ASTON UNIVERSITY SIXTH FORM

Sport at Aston University Sixth Form reflects our innovative approach to the other areas of our curriculum. Working in partnership with Aston University's 'Sport Aston' ensures we have access to outstanding sports facilities from across the Aston University campus. Sport in enrichment time will therefore benefit from facilities which include astro turf pitches, swimming pool, sports halls, badminton and multi-gym.

AUEA also has its own sports hall and multi-gym facility. Year 12 students will have the opportunity to use the facilities of Sport Aston once per week during enrichment time. Alternatively students can join at the discounted student rate for full membership. Community / parent membership is also available.

All sixth form students will have the opportunity to take part in the Sixth Form College Games representing their college in different events.



SIXTH FORM AGREEMENT



In September 2017 AUEA launched our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) supported by the Ministry of Defence and Department for Education as part of the Cadet Expansion Scheme. By Christmas we had over 120 cadets in our programme and it continues to expand.

Joining a family of over 350 schools across the UK CCF offers students a rich mixture of challenging, exciting, adventurous and educational training beyond their normal day to day curriculum.

At AUEA we look to develop the students understanding of the 7R's and their readiness for work. By being part of the CCF students will develop • Marksmanship - A steady hand is needed to gain a resourcefulness, resilience and respect to name a few.

The CCF is not a recruitment mechanism for the armed forces but an opportunity to develop as an individual whilst gaining experiences beyond the classroom.

AUEA has chosen to align its CCF with the Royal Air Force given that we are an engineering academy and are fortunate to be partnered with the Royal Air Force Engineering at RAF Cosford.

The aims of the Air Cadet section of the CCF are:

- Promote and encourage a practical interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force among young
- Provide training which will be useful in life.
- Encourage the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship.





Membership of the CCF is exciting, rewarding and above all fun.

Cadets can get involved in many different activities and experiences such as:

- Flying Gain flying experience or even a private pilot's license before you can drive
- marksman qualification
- Leadership Training Develop your ability to lead others to a successful conclusion
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Achieve a Gold award and visit Buckingham Palace
- Digital communications Cyber technology and radio communications
- · Survival Field craft skills and skills for life
- Personal development Soft skills, 7R's, readiness for work
- Sixth Form cadets, due to their age, are able to access higher level training such as Level 3 Leadership courses and apply for flying scholoarships.



Royal College of Nursing Cadet Scheme

The Royal College of Nursing Cadet Scheme will be available to students in Sixth Form and will run alongside the Combined Cadet Force. The scheme will be open to those students that have an interest in following a career within Healthcare. The scheme aims to develop and prepare for life and support them towards their career.

Students will be involved in activities, combining guided online and experiential learning. This includes modules and a clinical observational placement within their local healthcare region. Once they have completed this cadets submit a portfolio of reflection and gain a completion certificate. They are then supported to make decisions on their next steps into the Healthcare

All students at Aston University Sixth Form must sign our Sixth Form Expectations Agreement for how they will meet our high expectations and high levels of achievement. This agreement acts as a contract to study at our Sixth Form and clearly states our policies and guidelines. Failure to adhere to the contract may result in putting your place at jeopardy.

Sixth Form Attendance Policy

It is a key aim of the Sixth Form that all students should have 100% attendance in order to maximise their educational experiences and attainment, therefore sixth form students will be required to attend all timetabled lessons. intervention sessions, tutorials and Learning Review Group periods. Students who are eligible for 16-19 bursary payments and have failed to achieve the necessary attendance percentage may not receive their full payment for that term. It is not quaranteed that all absences will be Please see 'Sixth Form Intervention' Chart, for a further breakdown of the attendance percentages.

Absences will be considered to be unauthorised unless there is a valid reason otherwise. Where there is an absence and the student wishes this to be authorised, it is up to the parent to notify and agree this with their son/daughter's tutor/ Director of Sixth Form in line with this policy. If the absence can be foreseen, then the student must apply for authorised absence in advance by contacting the KS5 College Leader who will inform the Director of Sixth Form. This must be done at least two days before any planned absence. It is not acceptable to miss classes without prior notification and then to ask that the absence should be authorised retrospectively.





authorised. Where the reason for absence could not be foreseen, Aston University Sixth Form will consider whether the absence should be authorised. An absence which could not have been notified in advance should be notified to the academy on the day in question; this should be done by a phone call to AUEA reception by 9am on the day of absence. If absence is due to illness, parents should give brief details of the absence and an estimated day of return. On return to sixth form, a discussion regarding the absence will take place with their tutor and any other information will be passed on to the Director of Sixth Form.

Punctuality

Punctuality is not only one of the keys to success at Aston University Sixth Form but is also a key employability skill for future careers. Students whose punctuality is identified as a persistent issue by their tutor and/or subject teacher will be sanctioned in accordance to the Sixth Form Intervention Chart.

Independent Study

All students will be allocated Independent Study periods on their timetables. These periods are given to students to complete study tasks, revision and assignments; therefore there is no excuse for missed deadlines and poor preparation. During these periods students are expected to be working in The Learning Resource Hub or other designated independent study areas. Students need to demonstrate a readiness to learn outside of sixth form therefore those who are not meeting their subject or tutor targets will have this privilege removed. There is no such thing as a 'free period'.

SIXTH FORM AGREEMENT

Conduct

Sixth Form students are expected to be role models in and around the Academy, which also includes Aston University Campus. Students need to be aware of the following:

- Smoking and/or e-cigarettes are not allowed on site including Aston University Campus.
- Student MUST wear full business dress to and from Aston University Sixth Form (including Aston University Campus), as well as onsite. No trainers should be worn.
- Students will adhere to the ICT acceptable user policy
- Mobile phones for sixth form are permitted for learning purposes and can be used in designated areas. Mobile phones are not allowed during lessons and should be on silent and not seen.

Post 16 Rewards and Consequences

Throughout your time at Aston University Sixth Form, many opportunities will be offered to you, such as industry trips, work experience, university workshops and summer schools. Many of these trips are organised as rewards for students who are achieving or exceeding their subject and/or tutor targets. Students are advised to engage in as many relative opportunities to help boost their personal statements for university or employment.

Students who fail to meet the expectations of sixth form will be issued with consequences in accordance with the Sixth Form Intervention Chart. In brief, students will be given warnings that reflect the issue and will be decided by the Assistant Principal Sixth Form and finalised by the Principal.

Contribution to Sixth Form Life

Sixth form students are in a position to set an example to younger pupils, and to guide and mentor our Year 9, 10 and 11 students through their GCSE years. Students should acquire and demonstrate our 7 Learning Attributes (7R's).

Sixth form students will be given the opportunity to apply for a position on the Student Leadership Team and will assist the responsibilities of the Head Students.

It is imperative for students to enrich themselves in activities within sixth form and the wider community to ensure they are holistically experienced. Some universities and employers identify this area just as important as the academics and we will provide you with many opportunities to undertake enrichment such as Duke of Edinburgh, Field Gun Challenge, AUEA Talent Show and playing in sports teams.

Learning Review sessions will become imperative to your success at Aston University Sixth Form, ensuring adequate progress is being made, important messages are being communicated and personalised student references are written.



Study

- Students should fully prepare for the formal internal assessments (milestones) to ensure progression is made throughout the year.
- Students should devote at least 5 hours of time each week to the independent study of each subject. This will include consolidation of work done in class and wider reading or research.
- Ensure that any work/assignment set is completed on time in agreement with the subject teacher. Failure to meet deadlines will result in formal warnings issued in accordance to the Sixth Form Intervention Chart.
- Students should participate in all compulsory activities specifically arranged for sixth form students by Curriculum Areas.
- Undertake no more than 10 hours per week paid employment during term time. Your place at Sixth Form should be seen as your 'main iob'.
- Students should maintain work books/ folders in line with Sixth Form and Curriculum Area expectations.

<u>Progression</u>

All Year 12 students will continue with all of their subjects up until the August results, before decisions will be made about what subjects to continue or discontinue into Year 13. Once all examinations and assignment work have been completed, Year 12 students will undertake a Personal Development curriculum where activities such as transition work, work experience and University visits can be carried out.

Entrance onto any sixth form course is dependent on meeting the minimum entry requirements as specified in the course booklet.

Progression into Year 13 is as follows:

- 1. All A Level subjects are now linear courses, therefore the results of the End of Year exams will determine entry into Year 13.
- 2. You can progress to study 3 A Level courses in your second year if you successfully complete each of those three subjects in your first year and you have a good record of behaviour, effort, punctuality and attendance.
- 3. If you do not achieve these grades in Year 12, it is poor advice and guidance to progress into Year 13 and instead additional options of re-sitting qualifications / years will be offered if within the student age limit.

- 4. If you are on a BTEC programme, for progression into Year 13 students must have completed (and passed) all Year 12 assignments and have consistently met the requirements of the BTEC programme. Please refer to the BTEC Handbook on Firefly for more information.
- 5. If you have a poor record of punctuality and / or attendance and/ or behaviour you may not be allowed to continue into the second year.
- 6. If your attendance falls below 85% your place at Aston University may be terminated with immediate effect.



PARENTAL PROGRESS REVIEW MEETINGS

At least twice a year student progress will be discussed with parents at a Progress Review meeting. Towards the end of each year 12 a formal report detailing progress and attainment in every subject will be issued to parents. You will be invited to attend a minimum of two Progress Reviews each year. These Progress Reviews are led by learning review tutors and / or subject teachers. Where students are identified as under-performing meetings will be scheduled on an individual basis. Our partnership with parents is absolutely vital to students making good progress.

INTERVENTION CHART

PASTORAL TEAM

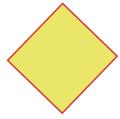
Positive Behaviours and 7R's

SIXTH FORM INTERVENTION CHART

Good Attendance (95% plus)

INITIAL POOR CONDUCT

Logged on Bromcom. Teacher/student conversation.



INITIAL POOR ABSENCE

(Absence for 2+ lessons) Subject teacher conversation Inform LRT.

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REPEATED POOR CONDUCT

Logged on Bromcom. Subject teacher phones home. Inform LRT to monitor overall conduct.



REPEATED POOR ABSENCE

Subject teacher phones home. Inform LRT to monitor.

REPEATED POOR CONDUCT

CAL intervention. Phonecall or meeting. If not subject specific refer to LRT. Tutor report.



REPEATED POOR ABSENCE

(92% below) Tutor report. Inform home.

CONTINUED POOR CONDUCT

Verbal warning. KS5 College Leader report. Phone home.



CONTINUED POOR ATTENDANCE

(90% below) Verbal warning. KS5 College

Leader report. Phone home.

FAILURE TO MEET EXPECTATIONS

Written warning by Assistant Principal. Parent meeting. External exclusion. AP report.



FAILURE TO MEET EXPECTATIONS

(88% below) Written warning by Assistant Principal. Parent meeting. AP report.

CONTINUED FAILURE TO MEET EXPECTATIONS

Referral to Principal. Dismissed.



CONTINUED FAILURE TO MEET EXPECTATIONS

(85% below) Referral to Principal. Dismissed.

Students at AUEA are divided into four Colleges. Supported by a pastoral team with responsibility for the development of learners within the Colleges. These support the ethos of AUEA by grouping students into teams. The College structure supports Learning Review, assemblies, student leadership and competition. Each College has its own base within the AUEA building, designed to reflect the history of the College. These are equipped with an information screen, water cooler, student lockers, and formal and social seating areas. All areas have Wi-Fi, to support independent study. The Colleges are as follows:

HOUNSFIELD

He was an English electrical engineer who shared the 1979 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine with Allan McLeod Cormack for his part in developing the diagnostic technique of X-ray computed tomography. His name is immortalized in the Hounsfield scale, a quantitative measure of radio density used in evaluating CT scans.

SHILLING

A pioneering female engineer with connections with Birmingham, working at Birmingham University prior to her aerospace work. She developed a technical innovation for Rolls Royce on aircraft engines.

LANCHESTER

Brothers who first developed a car in 1895 and it was on the road by 1896. It was designed as a car and not a 'horseless carriage'. The first cars sold to the public in 1901. Their successor was Daimler and Jaguar. Their contribution has been celebrated with a statue of the car in the Heartlands area, Bloomsbury Street.

WHITTLE

He is credited with independently inventing the turbojet engine (some years earlier than Germany's Dr. Hans von Ohain) and is generally hailed as the father of jet propulsion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To reach the college team by phone dial 0121 380 0570 option 3

Mrs R Acton - Assistant Principal Learner Development & Designated Senior Lead ruth.acton@auea.co.uk

Miss C Bedney - Assistant Principal Sixth Form cathy.bedney@auea.co.uk

Mrs R Grant - Attendance & Welfare Manager rachael.grant@auea.co.uk

Miss S Gohar - Senior College Leader suffia.gohar@auea.co.uk

Mrs A Hussain - College Leader Year 9 alisha.hussain@auea.co.uk

Mrs L Rendall - Learning Resource Hub Manager & Student Mentor lynette.rendall@auea.co.uk

Mrs S Carlin - Sixth Form College Leader sally.carlin@auea.co.uk

Ms K Plange - Sixth Form College Leader keren.plange@auea.co.uk

To reach the SEND team and SENDCo by phone dial 0121 559 0290

Mrs C Jacobs - SENDCo catherine.jacobs@auea.co.uk

Mrs L Sibley - Assistant SENDCo laura.sibley@auea.co.uk

Mr M Choudhury - SEND Team moorshed.choudhury@auea.co.uk

Miss A Kosim - SEND Team agnieszka.kosim@auea.co.uk

Miss S Schackmann - SEND Team salima.schackmann@auea.co.uk

Counsellor

To reach the counsellor by phone dial 0121 380 1549

Ms E Spence - College Team edieneh.spence@auea.co.uk

BUSINESS DRESS

BUSINESS DRESS POLICY

Our Sixth Form dress is business wear, with the suit matching what would be seen in professional businesses, as well as being affordable, and of high quality.

Students may purchase a suit from our supplier Clive Mark or purchase a plain Charcoal Grey suit from the high street or online retailers.

Aston University Sixth Form's policy on business dress is based on the principles set out in the dress code as follows:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the Sixth Form in line with our ethos, values and beliefs
- Engages a sense of community and belonging in the Sixth Form
- Supports positive behaviour and discipline
- Is practical, smart and businesslike
- Identifies students within the Sixth Form
- Prevents students from coming in fashion or 'designer' labels that could be distracting in lessons or create a sense of competition
- Makes students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and helps nurture cohesion between different groups of students
- Is regarded as suitable for school and good value for money by most parents
- Is designed with health and safety and safeguarding in mind

AUEA business dress is supplied by Birmingham company Clive Mark, with a dedicated local stores in Kings Heath, Boldmere and Bearwood.

Purchasing of Business Dress can either occur at the store or online at:

www.clivemark.co.uk

Students who do not conform to the expectations can expect to be given a warning, or be sent home immediately by the Assistant Principal Sixth Form if their business dress is unacceptable. This will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

We request that all parents/carers support our business dress policy and that they have a responsibility to send their children to Aston University Sixth Form correctly dressed and ready for their daily work.

If any parent or carer would like the Sixth Form to modify the business dress policy they should make representations in the first instance to the Principal. Aston University Sixth Form welcomes children from all backgrounds and faiths. If there are serious reasons, e.g. on religious grounds, why parents/carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the approved business dress, we will look at such requests sympathetically.





QUALITY, SERVICE & VALUE FOR OVER 50 YEARS IN THE MIDLANDS

STORE ADDRESSES:

38-40 Poplar Road Kings Heath Birmingham B14 7AD

11-13 Boldmere Road Sutton Coldfield B73 5UY

4-5 Three Shires Oak Road Bearwood Warley B67 5AX

SIXTH FORM BUSINESS DRESS

- > Grey Business Suit Jacket and Trousers or optional matching skirt (long or standard)
- White Formal Shirt (long or short sleeves) or white blouse
- > Sixth Form Tie
- > Plain black or grey socks/opaque tights
- Plain black robust business shoes

CLIVE MARK BUSINESS DRESS COSTS						
Suit Jacket	From £44.49	Skirt (standard or long)	From £19.99			
Trouser	From £20.99	Sixth Form Tie	From £9.49			
Blouse	From £23.49	Waistcoat (optional)	From £40.49			
Please note that Jumpers are not permitted as part of the Business Dress						

COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF)

For students who participate in the CCF, there will be a subscription charge which will provide cadets with a standard Royal Air Force CCF Cadet uniform, a customised polo shirt and a set of camouflaged clothing. The subscription also pays for the required insurance for all CCF activities.

The RAF do not supply parade shoes or boots. These will need to be sourced by the cadet from suitable outlets such as Army Navy stores or via websites such as www.cadetdirect.com



BUSINESS DRESS

CURRICULUM

BUSINESS SHOES

Aston University Sixth Form business dress is business wear, with the suit designed to match what would be seen in professional businesses. The same applies to shoes. Shoes should be a plain black shoe, with no motif/logo, canvas or trainers.

This should be a black traditional leather/leather type shoe either laced or loafer or a strong, black, closed toe, flat or low solid heel shoe. No high heels (this is important as these cannot be worn in the workshops). Low flat shoes should be plain black leather/leather type. No Canvas or other trainer materials are permitted.

Please note that NO TRAINERS are allowed at AUEA apart from those carried in and worn for sport. Students are not permitted to wear trainers/casual shoes to and from sixth form, unless riding a bike. We therefore request parents to support their child in purchasing the correct shoes from the outset in order to avoid potential issues. The images shown here are representative of the styles we expect.



Shoes must look professional business style. They hould be smart and black. Can be slip on, laced or low boot.



Trainer Shoes/Hybrids are not allowed

PAYMENTS

At the beginning of each academic year, a non refundable resource fee is payable. The resource fee is £30 per pupil, per annum and funds the following:

LOCKERS

Each student will be equipped with their own locker, with combination lock.

I.D CARDS

Your child will be equipped with an eCards which, as well as I.D, provides access to the building via the student entrance, electronic payment for food, and access to printing and photocopying machines.

One replacement card per annum is included in the resource fee. Any further replacements are charged at an additional cost of £3.

PRINTING

Each student will be allocated printing credit of £10 per annum. Additional credit can be purchased if needed from the Finance Office.

LANYARD

Lanyards must be worn around the neck at all times. One replacement lanyard per annum is included in the resource fee. Any further replacements are charged at an additional cost of £2.

EQUIPMENT

Students are expected to be equipped with the necessary equipment for working as a young professional at Aston University Sixth Form. Each student will have their own locker for them to keep their equipment in throughout the day. Replacement equipment can be purchased from the AUEA student shop.

Students writing /technical drawing equipment should be kept inside a pencil case. All students should also have a scientific calculator. The minimum requirements within your child's pencil case are:

- >Pens (Black, Blue, Red and Green)
- >Black fine line
- >Pencils (HB, 2H,)
- > Eraser (Standard rubber and putty rubber)
- >30cm Ruler
- >Pencil Sharpener
- >Protractor and Set square
- >Highlighter Pens
- >Scientific Calculator



YAWHTA9

MAIN CURRICULUM

ENTRY

OPTIONS

and GCSE English \mid **BTEC Level 3 NationalExtended Diploma (e.g D*D*D*) = 3 A laths+FPQ = Eligible for Technical Baccalaureate ncluding GCSE Math

GCSE Average* Point = 6.5

Minimum Grade 4 GCSE Maths

Extended Project (EPQ)***

ASSESSMENT

PROGRESSION & CAREERS

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is fundamental to supporting students' progress and attainment. At Aston University Sixth Form a wide range of assessment tools are used to set targets, monitor progress and track the achievement of our students. Efficient, up-to-date and accessible online reporting systems allow all staff in the Academy to work with accurate information about individual students to help them achieve make rapid progress.

TARGET SETTING

We will use average GCSE scores to assess the ability of Year 12 students. These scores determine the most appropriate curriculum pathway. Aston University Sixth Form is an Alps Connect member. Alps uses GCSE scores to set aspirational targets and track progress against national benchmarks.

TARGET

This is the minimum grade a student should achieve in each subject by the end of the course. It has been calculated from GCSE grades achieved.

ASSESSING PROGRESS

Teachers will use a whole range of strategies to assess students' learning each lesson. Self, peer and teacher assessment will be used along with formal assessment activities and tests. The results from these will be recorded electronically, providing 'real-time' data about student performance across the Academy. Progress in professional and technical programmes is monitored through regularly updated Progress Trackers so students and their parents know what elements have been achieved and what is still to do.

EXAMINATIONS

Students on A Level courses will end of year examinations in June / July of year 12. Formal mock examinations in December and March of Y13 ensure they are fully prepared for their A Levels. Students who do not make expected progress on A Level courses may be offered alternative pathways. Progression to Year 13 is dependent on successful completion of Year 12 academic, vocational and technical programmes.

EXPECTED GRADES

At regular intervals students' progress data across the Academy is analysed. Teachers use this data to estimate the grade each student is likely to achieve at the end of their course. This grade is referred to as their 'Expected Grade' and is updated termly.

ASSESSING EFFORT

National evidence shows that, coupled with good teaching, academic progress is directly related to the amount of work a student does. For this reason we assess their effort in each subject each

Effort leads to progress when:

- > Students arrive on time for lessons with the correct equipment.
- > They are fully engaged in the lesson, actively participating.
- > Homework and independent learning tasks are always complete and on time.
- > They go beyond expectations, respond positively to feedback by correcting mistakes and extending their learning.
- > They don't give up.

Each term Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze awards for effort are presented. Students consistently achieving effort awards are rewarded through celebration events and special opportunities.

At Aston University Sixth Form, trying really matters.



All students should aim for the green 'High effort / High progress'

Students identified in the red 'Low effort / Low progress' quadrant are at very high risk of underachieving.

University Aspirations

Aston University Sixth Form works hard to ensure their students are educated into making informed decisions about their future pathway at Higher Education and Apprenticeships. To help inspire them, visits, workshops and residential opportunities are organised for students throughout their time in the sixth form.

As well as our close partnerships with Aston University, University of Birmingham and Birmingham City University, we explore offers across the UK, including at the leading Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Previously, students had the opportunity to take part in a residential trip to the University of Oxford; a world leading centre of teaching and research. During this trip, students experienced the Oxford 'way of life' as well as meeting different Professors and Academic Tutors within their subject area.

This is an excellent opportunity for our students to get a taste of Higher Education and inspire them to achieve their aspirations.

Aston Progression Pathways (APP)

We are proud and very privileged to work so closely with Aston University on the APP programme. The programme is designed to empower Year 12 students who are considering studying a STEM subject at university to confidently make decisions about their progression to higher education.

The 18-month programme consists of one-to-one in-school mentoring and a three day non-residential Summer Research Programme run by our world-class academics on campus.

APP students also receive quaranteed places on all subject enrichment conferences & taster sessions A significant amount of our students achieve run by Aston University.

students' aspirations, improve their motivation to and Rolls-Royce. pursue a STEM related degree and provide them with knowledge, skills and experiences that will enhance their UCAS application.

Pathway to Healthcare:

Year 12 Students have previously celebreated being awarded the opportunity to be placed on the Sir Doug Ellis Pathway to Healthcare Programme run by Aston University. Aston University's Medical School opened in September 2018 and the Sir Doug Ellis Pathway to Healthcare Programme is designed to prepare students to enter medical school and other healthcare professions at Aston University or elsewhere. The programme is for students from across the Birmingham, Black Country (Dudley, Walsall, Sandwell and Wolverhampton) and Solihull regions; from non-traditional backgrounds and still meet their high GCSE academic criteria. Students who complete this programme and meet their A Level academic entry criteria will be eligible to apply for one of our subsidised places on the undergraduate medicine degree (MBChB). Normally only 2 students per school are allowed to submit applications however, Aston University Sixth Form have been awarded 6 places for our future doctors.

UCAS

Aston University Sixth Form has a well trained dedicated team to support each student with their UCAS progress. The preparation begins in Year 12 leading through to the final process in September of Year 13.

Students applying to either Oxford or Cambridge also get additional support from King Edwards Grammar Schools as part of our partnership. This includes entry exam support as well as mock interviews and feedback.

Apprenticeships

All students are introduced to the different apprenticeship options and pathways throughout their time at the UTC. Students meet with current apprentices and employers, attend talks and specialist apprenticeship fairs.

prestigious opportunities due to the additional employer - project led approach of a UTC. Over recent This sustained programme of activity aims to raise years this has included apprenticeships at Dyson, JLR

PROGRESSION & CAREERS

Launch Your Career

All students at Aston University Sixth Form create an account to an online platform called Launch Your Career. Students undertake a short personality quiz which highlights careers that suit their personality type. Launch Your Career gives students access to up to date labour market information, career profiles and entry routes. Students are encouraged to keep visiting this platform and keep their profile up to date.

Launch Your Career automatically tracks the interests of students to provide AUEA with statistical data allowing a more targeted approach to inform curriculum planning and project based learning opportunities.

Throughout their time at Aston University Sixth Form all interactions with employers, workplace experiences, encounters with further and higher education and careers guidance is recorded on Compass +. This enables us to see an individual student's personal development. Compass + is a tool developed by The Careers and Enterprise Company in order for education providers to manage, track and report on their careers programme.

After graduating from Aston University Sixth Form students are encouraged to join our Alumni. This enables them to keep in contact with students and staff, and engage with AUEA in a professional capacity.



Gatsby Benchmarks

Careers Education Information Advice & Guidance (CEIAG) is important in order to assist AUEA students to be ready for the world of work. At present AUEA students engage in a careers programme which includes advice and guidance throughout the year.

Students engage in a wide range of activities such as:

- Meaningful work experience
- Curriculum based visits to industry
- Enhanced placements
- Contextualised learning within the curriculum
- STEM project and competitions
- Combined Cadet Force
- Apprenticeship show
- One to one meetings with Careers Advisors

In January 2018 the Government introduced the Careers Strategy which requires all schools to meet a minimum standard of careers education. AUEA have been exceeding that standard for a number of years and will continue to do so. AUEA sit on the Careers & Enterprise Headteachers Forum, representing Birmingham schools and are working closely with our Industry Advisory Board and an industry expert to ensure AUEA continues to provide appropriate careers education.

In 2013 the Gatsby Foundation commissioned Sir John Holman to come up with measures to improve careers guidance. That became the Gatsby Benchmarks; a series of 8 standards that have been adopted by the Governments Careers Strategy to help schools deliver good careers education.

The eight Gatsby benchmarks of Good Career Guidance are:

- 1. A stable careers programme
- 2. Learning from career and labour market information
- 3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
- 4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
- 5. Encounters with employers and employees
- 6. Experiences of workplaces
- 7. Encounters with further and higher education
- 8. Personal guidance

AUEA reviews progress through the 8 standards every half term to ensure compliance and to suggest where improvements can be made. That is then scrutinised by our industry expert.

UTC Hub are continuing to develop their system to include the Gatsby benchmarks so that students can self-track and upload evidence of their Careers Education at AUEA to help them with UCAS Applications and applications for future roles.

