

Academy Transformation Trust is consulting on the closure of the sixth form at Sutton Community Academy effective from 1 September 2026. The consultation and subsequent decision making will be completed in line with DfE non-statutory guidance, 'Making significant changes to an academy; non-statutory guidance on collaborative school place planning and making organisational changes to academies, October 2024'.

## Specific Proposal

The Academy Transformation Trust's Board and Sutton Community Academy are proposing to close The Sutton Community Academy sixth form, from 1 September 2026. The proposal would see no students recruited into Year 12 in September 2025 and the academy's sixth form closed in September 2026 once the current Year 12 students have been seen through to the end of their courses in Year 13.

Academy Transformation Trust's Board and Sutton Community Academy have considered a number of key factors in deciding to hold a consultation in regard to the proposal:

- The percentage of the Year 11 cohort historically recruited into Year 12 has been low, even in years when the sixth form compares well with local alternatives on attainment, retention, and progression. Currently there are 22 students in Y12 and 30 in Year 13. Projections do not suggest there is likely be significant increases in student numbers recruited into the SCA Sixth Form.
- Historically, the external recruitment into Year 12 from other schools has been limited.
- Too many Year 11 students do not achieve the GCSE grades required for entry into the sixth form's Advanced Level academic and vocational courses.
- The sixth form is not financially viable, in its own right, and has had to be subsidised by the income for KS3 and KS4 students to remain open, undermining their education.
- Leaders at the academy have already refined the curriculum offer to make it more financially efficient. Further savings would require fewer subject choices in future that would also drive away even more students.
- There are high-quality alternative places at local sixth form providers.

## The consultation period

The consultation period will run for six working weeks from Monday 18 November 2024, until Monday 13 January 2025.

Ged Rae  
Trust Executive Principal, Academy Transformation Trust

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## Who is being consulted

The consultation on this proposal is for the attention of the following:

- Parents of children who attend Sutton Community Academy
- Parents in the area
- Residents/people in the local area with an interest in the proposal
- All other relevant admission authorities within the local area
- The local authority
- Neighbouring local authorities

## How to respond

Academy Transformation Trust and Sutton Community Academy welcome your views on this proposal, and you can engage in the following ways:

**Email:** [consultations@attrust.org.uk](mailto:consultations@attrust.org.uk) with the subject header **Sutton sixth form**

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