

8th October 2019



Dear colleagues,

### **Consultation on the proposed temporary closure of Sixth Form Provision at Harrogate High School**

The consultation process began on **8<sup>th</sup> October and will end on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019** after which we will seek permission to change our admission arrangements from the Department of Education.

The purpose of this communication is to seek your views on the proposal to temporarily close the Sixth Form at Harrogate High School.

Given that one of our historic challenges has been to reach full capacity at lower school, the consequential impact of which has now impacted on our Post 16 viability at the present time. The situation where we have very small numbers of students studying A Level Maths and Science, for example, is non-sustainable. We are currently unable to provide the range of Level 3 programmes necessary to make the provision attractive and deliver curriculum breadth and depth, as well as maintain standards and a quality student experience.

With such successful academic Sixth Forms in the Harrogate area, we fervently believe that our Sixth Form Provision should be an excellent, focused and bespoke vocational provision for students for whom traditional pathways may not be appropriate.

Now, with much larger numbers of students now attending the school we anticipate the closure to be temporary. To this end, we wish to work with the Local Authority and a range of regional providers to establish a Post 16 Centre that is fit for purpose and better-tailored to our students' needs.

If this proposal for temporary closure is approved by the Department for Education there would be no provision of Level 3 courses for year 12 students in the academic year 2020.

### **Admissions in Year 7 and retention in Year 12**

The temporary closure of the Sixth Form would not be expected to have an impact on recruitment to Year 7. The temporary closure of the Sixth Form would fundamentally affect retention of students in Year 11, who would have approx. 10 months' notice of the change.

We welcome the thoughts and responses of all members of the school's community, on the response sheet provided with this document. **All comments or suggestions can be emailed to the Head of Academy's PA at Harrogate High School: [HStallard@harrogatehighschool.co.uk](mailto:HStallard@harrogatehighschool.co.uk)**

Yours sincerely

Jenn Plews  
Chief Executive Officer

