



**Blessed Robert Sutton**  
Catholic Voluntary Academy

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11<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Closure

Dear parents / carers,

I wrote to you in January to explain that due to low numbers and financial viability, I would be consulting on the future of the Sixth Form at Blessed Robert Sutton.

I have now received notification from the Governors of the school (Local Governing Body) and the Trust Board (St Ralph Sherwin Multi-Academy Trust) of the decision to close the Sixth form provision.

I can now confirm that the school will not recruit any new students into Year 12 in September 2019.

This decision does not affect any of our current sixth form students as we will continue all the courses we currently offer and support the personal development of our students.

The Sixth Form will close completely on 31st August 2020.

The school will further develop support and guidance for pupils as they decide on their Post 16 choices, with particular emphasis on ensuring that our current Year 11 pupils are supported for their decisions for September 2019.

If you have any queries, please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Mills at [claire.mills@robertsutton.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:claire.mills@robertsutton.staffs.sch.uk)

Thank you for all your support during this time. Although it is, regrettably, the end of an era for the Sixth Form, I know that Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy has a bright future and I look forward to leading the school in the next exciting phase of its development.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A. Smith  
Headteacher

Please find overleaf, a statement from the Governors (LGB) concerning the consultation.

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*'Academic excellence, spiritual development and social awareness through Christ'*



Saint Ralph Sherwin  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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Headteacher: Mr Aidan Smith

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## **LGB Statement on the Sixth Form Public Consultation**

### **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 6.30 pm**

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Following the Blessed Robert Sutton CVA Sixth Form Public Consultation period ending on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the LGB have reviewed and discussed all contributions received.

Sadly, as an LGB, we acknowledge that the Sixth Form, in its current format - given its size, the available funding and required future investment, is not financially sustainable. However, we strongly support the Headteacher's commitment, given to parents at the Public Consultation evening on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019, regarding Year 12 students who will be supported to finish their studies in Year 13 at Blessed Robert Sutton CVA.

We also acknowledge that at this stage it is difficult to assess the impact of not having a Sixth Form and we recognise the need to identify the risks and threats to ensure that we have appropriate strategies to address these issues; in particular, we want to ensure the wellbeing of our staff during any potential restructuring.

Furthermore, we recognise the need for access to a Catholic Sixth Form and look to the CMAT to provide options for our students where possible (i.e. St Benedict's CVA).

Jerome Emery (Chair of the Local Governing Body.)

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