



**PAIGNTON  
COMMUNITY &  
SPORTS ACADEMY**

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
Our Ref: MAS/CM  
Reply to: Mark Smith  
At: Waterleat Road Centre

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to all stakeholders to inform you that I will be looking to close our sixth form from September 2019 and the current Year 12 students will be our last intake. This decision saddens me, but since South Devon College moved to Paignton there has been a major reduction in Post 16 pupil numbers, and with such low numbers in our sixth form it is impossible to run enough courses to benefit the students.

The Trust, Tim Willcocks (Assistant Head) and I have spent a great deal of time liaising with South Devon College and we have established an excellent working relationship. The College has offered to support the Academy where possible, including introducing a careers programme across all years. In fact they recently arranged an Open Day specifically for our Year 11 students; this was a very successful event, with everyone commenting on the excellent facilities. I am confident that with our close links to South Devon College, the students at the Academy will have a far better opportunity, and the choice of a wider range of courses, to succeed at Post 16.

The Academy is also working closely with Churston Grammar School and each year approximately five students join their sixth form – again there is an opportunity for our students to visit the school before the Open Evening.

One of the conditions that I must meet, to close the sixth form, is to write to all stakeholders to explain the rationale and seek your views. I would be grateful if you could respond via e-mail at [consultancy@paigntonacademy.org](mailto:consultancy@paigntonacademy.org) expressing whether you are in favour of the change or if you have any objections – please could any comments be received by 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards,

Mark Smith  
Head of School