



The newsletter of Jewellery Quarter Academy

Welcome Back to JQA

11th September 2020

Parents, Carers & Students,

We hope your child has had a great first (almost) two weeks back at JQA. Whilst things might be different for us all, what remains is our support and care for all students; the place hasn't been the same without them. We have missed their laughter, their smiles, the beautiful silence of a classroom with 100% concentration and hard work taking place.

We hope our students feel welcomed and supported as they return to JQA.



You might have seen us on the news...

We were delighted to share our approaches to safety and our excitement and enthusiasm to have our wonderful students return to JQA on BBC News and [Heart FM](#) last week.

Journalists from [BBC Breakfast](#) visited the Academy to interview Mr Williams and other staff about our extensive measures on site to keep students and staff safe.

[Parents were also interviewed](#) and expressed their confidence that their children would be safe.

Clearly, many families would have been nervous about their child's return to the Academy—and families of children in Year 7 even more so as they approached their first day at secondary school.

Students have their temperatures taken and sanitise their hands on entry, remaining in their zones for lessons, with their own equipment, and going to specific spaces at social times. **We are constantly reviewing processes against the latest government guidance.**

The latest [government restrictions for Birmingham](#) mean that students should wear face coverings in communal areas (not classrooms) from Tuesday 15th September.

We have received lots of positive feedback from parents and carers at the Academy gates each morning and from members of our community who have appreciated our work to contribute to controlling the spread of the virus, whilst warmly welcoming students back to continue their education and catch-up with high-quality teaching.



[Due to local restrictions announced for Birmingham](#), students should wear a face covering in communal areas (not classrooms) from Tuesday 15th September

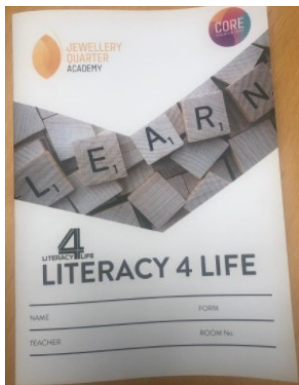
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News

Excellence In New Exercise Books

We have been impressed with the start students have made in their new custom-made exercise books. We want students to take real pride in their work at JQA and for it to be their best work.

To support this, we have invested in a much higher quality of exercise book for all students. In English, Maths, Science and L4L, students have bespoke exercise books with learning support pages such as key formulae and a period table!



Personal Development—Managing Risks

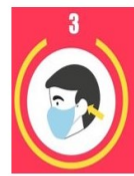
As part of our character education programme during Personal Development (PD), students have been learning about **managing risks and making positive decisions** in relation to how they wear face masks to prevent the spread of Covid-19. PD takes place every Tuesday period 1. This was important as we expected the government to tell us students had to wear face coverings at the Academy due to a local spike in cases and, as this has now happened, students should wear face coverings in communal spaces (not classrooms) from Tuesday 15th September.



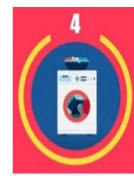
Wash your hands before and after using the face covering



The covering should closely cover your nose and mouth



Remove by the ears - avoid touching the front



Wash the covering regularly with other laundry

DELIVERING A
CORE EDUCATION

OPPORTUNITY

Celebrating Roald Dahl Day

In our first form competition of the year, students were invited to design an alternative book cover for a famous Roald Dahl book.

The legendary author would have been proud of the illustrations and designs by students and we will reveal which form has won this first competition of 2020-21 shortly.

It was an opportunity to put some points on the board in the weekly Form Competitions in each year group: students can also win points for their form with 100% attendance and logging their merits at www.mystickers.com

Virtual Assemblies—Excellence

Mr Barton led our first virtual assemblies this week for all students on the value of 'Excellence'.

We have defined our CORE values for our community and the assembly focussed on how we give 100% every day and try to get better all the time.

Inspired by Michael Jordan, in Netflix's 'The Last Dance', the assembly encouraged students to ask: **'Is this my best...?'** and gave strategies to focus on how we improve our work, our character to be the best version of ourselves.

DOING YOUR BEST IS MAKING
YOUR FAMILY PROUD.

Welcome To JQA—Our Main Entrance Has Had A Facelift During Lockdown

Our Main Reception entrance has had a makeover. We have brightened up the entrance to include our mission and values as well as reflecting and celebrating the diverse nature of the JQA community.

We are proud to be a place where all are welcomed, respected, treated equally and cared for.

It has been our pleasure to welcome so many new families to the academy in Year 7 this year.

We continue to welcome applications from families in Years 7-10 and it has been lovely to welcome new starters this week too to Team JQA.



News

Year 11 Period 6 Begins Shortly

We are determined that our Year 11 students have the opportunity to engage in extra lessons—particularly those in practical subjects.

As you will be aware, Year 11 students are afforded the second floor, which includes our Science rooms and also Art and Drama rooms too.

There is [specific guidance](#) that we follow to ensure practical subjects are completed safely and we want to ensure there is thorough cleaning between sessions from our on site Cleaning Team.

Miss Chudasama, Assistant Headteacher, will shortly write to all Year 11 families regarding starting Period 6.

Staying Safe On Site at JQA

We are pleased with the start that students have made to keeping themselves and others safe on site. It is important however, that all students are aware of, and follow the expectations below:

- [Know what time to arrive and where to go](#)
- Wear your lanyard on site
- [Know which way to go to your break/lunch zone on specific days, including which toilet to use](#)
- [Know how to leave the academy safely](#)
- **Ensure you do everything you can to avoid unnecessary close contact— JQA has always been a ‘no-touching’ school and never before has this been more important. This will incur sanctions.**

This information is available on the app and we regularly send out alerts.. We advise students to screenshot this and read it before arriving on site so they are sure about the arrangements.

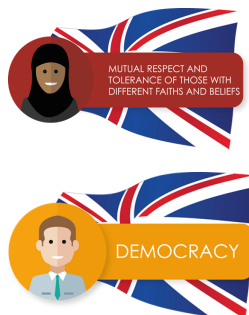
These arrangements can also be found by clicking the hyperlinks above.

Coming Up Next Week...

Next week, we have elections for the Student Parliament. This important democratic process will involve students standing for election in their forms to join the Student Parliament this year.

Students will also be taking part in tutor time activities to celebrate the International Day of Peace.

We are also arranging for the school photographer to take pictures for students' ID cards for their lanyards.



Beans The Dog Visited Us This Week

We arranged our termly visit from Beans, the dog, this week. We regularly use the [K9 Deployment](#) company to ensure we are a drug-free school. We will never be complacent with this as it is integral to student and staff safety.

Beans is a lovely little dog who some students just wanted to fuss!

Students are used to seeing Beans and this very good boy was given a warm welcome by students in Year 10 and 11.

As expected, he found nothing because our students are aware that JQA has a zero-tolerance approach to drugs. We look forward to seeing him again in the future.



Latest Government Guidance—IMPORTANT READING

Earlier this week, the Prime Minister outlined the ‘**Hands, Face, Space**’ mantra for the UK. Here is a [handy video to help](#) understand this more. We expect students and staff to adhere to these:

- 1) Wash your hands regularly
- 2) Wear a face covering in communal areas (not classrooms)
- 3) Maintain a distance from others of at least 1m

[On 11th September, the government announced local restrictions which affect Birmingham](#)—households should not visit each other or meet up in outside spaces.

It is important families of JQA students adhere to this to limit the spread of Covid-19 amongst our community.



News

We are proud of the way that the students have adapted themselves to the 'new normal' at Jewellery Quarter Academy, which is focussed on safety.



Messages from our Heads of Year:

Year 7 - Miss Seleshe

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have now completed our full first week here at Jewellery Quarter Academy and becoming more familiar with the expectations and day to day routines. For some of you it must feel strange being back in a school setting after so long, but you have risen to this new venture. It has been lovely to meet you all and see your facial expressions change from nervousness and apprehension to beaming smiles full of confidence at the end of your first few days. Your form tutors and myself are looking forward to getting to know each of every one of you this year; whilst supporting you in your first year at the Academy. With the collaboration of your parents, carers and teachers, I urge you to take every opportunity given to you this year in order to develop morally, respectfully and achieve academic excellence. If you begin each week, each day, each task with your end goal in mind, you will achieve and remain focussed to be the best version of yourself.



Miss Seleshe

Year 9 - Mr Kyffin

Welcome back. This will be my sixth year of teaching here at Jewellery Quarter Academy and I am excited to be working once more for another academic year with you and your child. Its going to be a year full of fun, adventure and opportunity.

It is my mission to instil a love for learning in my students. I attempt to always teach with a passion for my subject are so that students develop a desire to become a lifelong learner. Safety and well-being are key priorities for us all, providing a conducive environment for achievement.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Mr Kyffin



Year 10 - Miss Ivey

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big welcome back to JQA! The past months have been strange; however, as we come back this term, we can see a sense of normality. Year 10 is the beginning of your future where everything for the next two years count towards your final grade. Grab each opportunity with both hands and enjoy every moment. Remember my office door is always open.

Miss Ivey



Year 8—Mr Morton

Dear Parents/Carers,

After a long six months away, it has been a delight to welcome back our Year 8 students to JQA . With the changes made at the Academy over the last few months to ensure we all stay safe, I am pleased with the way our students have adapted so far. I am certain that the year ahead will be a positive one and see students realise their potential. With your support and collaboration, we can make this year a great one!

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Morton.



Year 11 - Mr Campbell

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our JQA Year 11s back to school after six months off. I want you all to be aware that no matter what we have been through, it is time to focus on your future and leave JQA with the best grades. As it is our final year, I want you to COLLABORATE with staff to get the most from the experts. I want you to take every OPPORTUNITY available given to benefit your studies. I want you to RESPECT not just staff, but your peers and parents/carers. Lastly, I want you to show EXCELLENCE in everything you do from today until the end of the year. If we can all do this, we would show what a great team we are at JQA. All the best and I am around to support each and every one of you.

Mr Campbell



Collaborating With JQA To Control Covid-19

It is important to maintain contact with us with regards to your child's attendance. Our Attendance and Office Manager, Ms Sparg, can be reached by calling 0121 729 7220 extension 1411, or emailing:

zsparg@jewelleryquarter.academy



Covid-19 related pupil absence A quick reference guide for parents

What to do if	Action Needed	Return to school when.....
My Child has Covid-19 symptoms; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back. A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH this means coughing a lot more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs. A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE -this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything. 	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Get a test. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTThe test comes back negative
My Child tests positive for covid-19.....	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 10 days. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Bubble isolates/remote learning.They feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks.
My Child tests negative	CONTACT THE SCHOOL Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day)The test comes back negative.
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to covid-19	FOLLOW USUAL SCHOOL ABSENCE POLICY PROCEDURE	After 48hrs following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence
Someone in my household has covid-19 symptoms	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Household members to get tested. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTSThe test comes back negative.
Someone in my household tests positive for covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 daysThe child has completed 14 days of isolation
NHS test & trace has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. CONTACT SCHOOL Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 daysThe child has completed 14 days of isolation
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time. Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed. Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 days from return date. Self-isolate the whole household.The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.School inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.
My child's bubble is closed due to a covid-19 outbreak in school.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL At home support your child with remote education provided by school. Your child will need to isolate for 14 days.School will inform you when the bubble will be reopened.

Parent Pay: paying for your child's school dinners online

We would like to encourage all parents and carers to use the [Parent Pay](#) system to ensure our Academy is a cashless place.



As we are sure you have seen, many shops and businesses have moved to accepting contactless payments only during the pandemic. This is an opportunity for us to discourage our students from bringing cash to JQA — as there are limited opportunities to put money on their account due to students remaining in bubbles and zones.

Therefore, we expect all parents to use the Parent Pay system to put money on their child's account.

GET STARTED

If your school is using ParentPay you should receive communication with account activation details from your school.

If you haven't received any, contact your school and request ParentPay login details.

Once you have your account details you can log in online at parentpay.com. Look for the 'Login' button at the top right.

If you would like to use ParentPay on your smartphone, just bookmark the login page to your home screen for easy access.

ParentPay has been designed from the ground up to work great on tablets and phones as well as desktop computers.

Don't worry about compatibility either. The vast majority of Android, iOS and Windows Phone devices will be able to run ParentPay.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH PARENTPAY?

School Dinners – View menus and check dietary and nutritional information. You can book and pay in advance or let your child choose in school.

Trips – Pay for school trips through ParentPay. Schools can send out invitations to the relevant parents; who can respond with parental consent and provide medical information.

Clubs – Receive advanced notification of clubs, so you can secure a place, book and pay early.

Online Shop – Whether it's student photographs, uniform or equipment, you can purchase items online. Check item information like size and colour prior to purchase.

Communication – Receive important messages from school via email and text.

Payment Options – Debit and credit cards, American Express and PayPoint from over 28,000 shops across the country.

Parent Pay can also be used to pay for replacement uniform and planners and trips/events.

If parents/carers need their log-in details for Parent Pay, they should get in touch with us on 0121 729 7220.

Below is a short video for parents about the system:

<https://vimeo.com/336556633>

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