

31st December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

You will no doubt be aware that the Education Secretary announced that secondary schools in England will operate a staggered return after the Christmas holiday, with all year groups being educated remotely for the first week of term and all non-exam year groups continuing this into the second week. I am writing to you now to confirm the arrangements at Jewellery Quarter Academy.

Students in ALL Years: Learning at Home Via Microsoft Teams (5th – 8th January)

Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10: Learning at Home Via Microsoft Teams (11th – 15th January) with Year 11 returning to site on 11th January for 0830.

Students who are considered 'vulnerable' (children with an EHC Plan, young people who have a social worker) or are the children of critical workers (key workers) should return to school on Tuesday 5th January, in full school uniform. We will give further details on plans for sport very shortly – for this, students will need full JQA PE Kit.

You should inform us if your circumstances have changed and this now affects your family by emailing safeguarding@jewelleryquarter.academy

All other students should log onto Microsoft Teams and join their lessons online from 0830-1500.

Their online education will be as close as possible to any normal day in school; students will register at the same time and have form time from 0830-0900 each day.

In Year 7 and 8, students will follow a full curriculum of L4L and other subjects with teachers from the L4L team.

In Year 9, a broad and balanced timetable will be followed with lessons delivered by teachers of Year 9.

[Guides and video tutorials for parents/carers](#) on how to access Teams using ANY device (including a mobile phone) as well as timetables for Years 7-9 are published [on our website here](#) and app. Lessons will be scheduled in the 'Year 7', 'Year 8' and 'Year 9' Teams group, which your child has been added to.

In Years 10 and 11, students will follow their usual timetable with their usual teachers in their usual groups – it will just be delivered virtually via Teams in their class Teams groups with lessons scheduled in these class Teams groups.

All attendance will be tracked and monitored, and students are expected to log-in and engage with the learning being offered by our staff who are expertly trained in delivering online learning.

Students in Year 11 who are sitting exams in January will be contacted regarding attending these important examinations. All Year 11 students will then provisionally return to the Academy for 0830 on Monday 11th January 2020.

Students in all other Year Groups will then provisionally return to the Academy for 0830 on Monday 18th January.

Access to Equipment and Technology

CORE Education Trust is committed to ensuring that every student has access to a laptop or tablet device so that they can continue to receive a high quality of education.

Should you need to borrow a device for this period, please contact Mr. A. Shabir (ashabir@jewelleryquarter.academy) or Ms. S. Hibbs (sahibbs@jewelleryquarter.academy) – who will be able to support you.

Should your child need their log-in details for their school email account, to access Microsoft Teams live learning, please call the Academy or request a password re-set via the Forms section of the JQA Piota App.

A guide to using Teams for parents / carers and students, along with tutorial videos on how to access using a mobile phone, is also on our website and app. We expect parents/carers to ensure their child attends all lessons and pastoral staff will be in touch if this is not the case.

As usual, please contact us if you have any queries or for clarification on any matter. Our usual communication email is open over the Christmas Holidays. Phone lines will be operated from 0800 on Monday 4th January.

If you need to report any medical matter, please call the Academy phone lines from 0800 on Monday 4th January.

I appreciate this news may be unsettling and I want to assure you that we will do everything to deliver a high standard of education to your child and to keep disruption to a minimum. Our overriding priority is to ensure the safety of all students and staff, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support over the measures we must take to manage the situation. On behalf of the staff at JQA, may I also wish you a happy, healthy New Year – with very best wishes for 2021.

Kind Regards.



Mr. G. Williams

Headteacher