

Excellence Is Expected Here.

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of Autumn Term is a time for reflection and celebration. It has certainly been a long term but we have achieved so much during the last term. Attendance continues to be a key focus and rewards for following Ready, Respectful and Safe is a huge step forward for JQA.

Next term we will see Year 11 take their Trial Exams in all subjects and Year 9 will begin their work on selecting their GCSE Options. Year 10 will move forward with their work experience plans. Year 7 have really settled well at JQA and they are now a key part of our future development.

I want to wish all parents/carers a peaceful and joyous holiday period and hope that you all have a fantastic New Year.

We look forward to seeing all students back at JQA on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.

Mr Henshaw

Our Shared Mission:

At JQA, we focus on **delivering a CORE education** that provides a broad range of opportunities for students from all backgrounds to learn and achieve as well as developing a depth of character around our shared values.

Collaboration: we succeed by working as a team.

Opportunity: we develop by taking on new challenges.

Respect: we care by respecting and looking after each other.

Excellence: we achieve by always giving 100% in everything we do.



COMING UP...

Our Events calendar is online at: <https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/events/>

5th January—Staff INSET Day

6th January - Students return for 8.35am start

12th January —Year 11 internal exams begin for 2 weeks

4th February— Year 9 Progress evening

13th February—Break up for half term

23rd February— Students return for 8.35am start

**Jewellery
Quarter Academy**

St George's Court
1 Albion Street
Birmingham

tel: 0121 729 7220 between 8am and 4pm

email: enquiry@corejewelleryquarter.academy

www.corejewelleryquarter.academy

 [@COREJQAcademy](https://twitter.com/COREJQAcademy)

 [@corejqacademy](https://www.instagram.com/corejqacademy)

COLLABORATION—Financial Support During The Festive Break

Ladywood

Ladywood - <http://ladywoodfoodbank.org.uk/>

Ladywood Foodbank – Labour of Love Ladywood Seventh-Day Adventist Church,

13 Guild Close, St. Vincent Street West, Ladywood, Birmingham, B16 8RP

07767152291 10.00am-14.00pm

Email : lwfoodbanklabouroflove@ymail.com

Birmingham

Birmingham - <https://birminghamcentral.foodbank.org.uk/>

Birmingham Central Foodbank, Birmingham City Church Parade

Birmingham, B1 3QQ.

0121 236 2997 (We distribute food parcels on: Tuesdays 9:30 -11:30 Fridays 10:00-13:30).

Email: info@birminghamcentral.foodbank.org.uk

Aston & Nechells

St Matthew's Church, 63 Wardlow Road, Nechells, Birmingham, B7 4JH.

0121 359 0801 (Open Mondays from 12.00-14.30pm).

Handsworth

Handsworth Birmingham Foodbank, New Life Wesleyan Church, Holyhead Road

Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 0LA. Telephone - 0121 070 734. (Open Thursdays 13.00pm-15.00pm)

Sparkhill

Units 20-21, Rovex Business Park, Hay Hall Road, Tyseley, Birmingham, B11 2AQ. Telephone - 0121 7081398 (Open Tuesdays / Thursdays 10.00am-13.30pm).



COLLABORATION— Places to eat



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) CHRISTMAS 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BILLS

2 Kids Eat Free on Boxing day 2025

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE from Fri 19th Dec - Sun 6th Jan 2026

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARSTONS PUBS

from 29th Dec - Jan 9th 2026 in selected locations

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

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COLLABORATION— Who to contact

As the year ends and school is closed for the seasonal holiday, some will be worried about who they can contact when help is needed. Please find useful contacts for students and parents/carers:

NHS 111

ChildLine Call 08001111

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 and Email: help@NSPCC.org.uk

If you are worried about a child (Birmingham Support)

[Worried about a child | Birmingham Children's Trust \(birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk\)](http://birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)

Mental Health helplines:

[Helplines and listening services - Mind](#)

[Kooth—Mental Health support service](#)

Thinking of take your own life:

If you are having thoughts of suicide or are concerned for a young person who might be you can contact HOPELINE247 for confidential support and practical advice. (24 hrs a day)

HOPE Line UK – 0800 068 4141 (call) or 078600399967 (text) or pat@papyrus-uk.org (email)

[Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide \(papyrus-uk.org\)](http://papyrus-uk.org)

Homeless Shelter: [Homelessness | The Salvation Army](#)



Do you need more information about Child Exploitation, online abuse and Grooming?

Information for parents and carers - search:

[Parents and carers | CEOP Education \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

[Concerned about your child? \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

Do you want to report online abuse or exploitation?

[Reporting to CEOP \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

Need advice about having awkward conversations with your child or a young person?

[#AskTheAwkward - help to talk with your children about online relationships \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)



Worried about homelessness over the holidays?

[Homelessness | Birmingham City Council](#)

[Homelessness - Birmingham Mind](#)

[I need accommodation now | I need accommodation now | Birmingham City Council](#)

[Shelter services in Birmingham - Shelter England](#)

Wishing all our students and families a very safe and happy holiday from Jewellery Quarter Academy Safeguarding Team



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OPPORTUNITY— CORE Explore Day 1

CORE Explore Day was held on Friday 14th of November. Each year group took part in different opportunities throughout the day.

Year 7 students took part in the National Careers Challenge, which was on air products “sustainable town of the future”.

Year 8 students visited Cadburys World.

Year 9 students took part in different GCSE option taster sessions.

Year 10 students worked with post-16 providers and looking at what they can study .

Year 11 worked with post-16 providers to look at different courses that are available.

It was a memorable day and the students enjoyed it.



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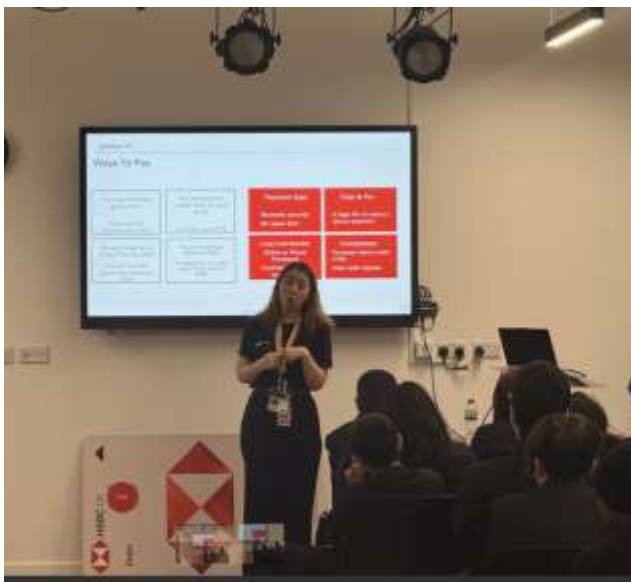
OPPORTUNITY— HSBC

HSBC isn't just a global bank—it's a gateway to opportunities. Operating in over 60 countries, HSBC helps people and businesses connect, grow, and succeed. From supporting young entrepreneurs to funding sustainability projects, HSBC is committed to shaping a better world.

For students, this means exciting chances to learn about finance, global careers, and how money moves across borders. Whether you dream of working in business, technology, or making a positive impact on the planet, HSBC is all about helping you take that first step toward your future.

On Friday the 12th of December, a representative from HSBC came in and delivered an assembly on "Banking 101", which was on debit cards, how to open an account and the issues around mobile banking.

The students had a lot of questions and enjoyed the session.



OPPORTUNITY— Anne Frank

Anne Frank: A Story That Still Speaks to Us

Anne Frank was a young girl whose diary became one of the most powerful voices of hope during the Second World War. Her words remind us why kindness, courage, and standing up against prejudice matter.

Today, the Anne Frank Organization works with schools around the world to keep her story alive, teaching lessons about tolerance, respect, and human rights. Through interactive projects and educational resources, they inspire young people to make a difference—because even small actions can change the world.

A group of students from year 7 and 8 took part in the Anne Frank workshop, in which they learnt about her life story and the teachings around mutual tolerance. They then had the opportunity to give a tour for the Anne Frank exhibition in the academy.



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OPPORTUNITY— COREUs

We were proud to see our COREus Choir perform at the FairShare Midlands Sir Peter Rigby King's Coronation Food Hub.

The event celebrated community, generosity, and collaboration, and it was a privilege for our students to contribute to an initiative that supports people across the Midlands. Moments like this reflect our commitment at CORE Education Trust to serving our communities and using education as a force for positive impact.

Thank you to FareShare Midlands for the warm welcome and for the vital work you continue to do.



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RESPECT— Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day gives us a chance to honour armed forces members who have died in the line of duty. Remembrance Day is observed on 11th of November to recall the end of First World War hostilities.

Hostilities formally ended "at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month" of 1918.

As part of the Jewellery Quarter Academy tradition, our Combined Cadet Force students went round to sell poppies throughout the week and the whole academy observed the 2 minute silence at 11:00am



RESPECT— International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Saturday 3rd December was International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD). International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is a UN day that is celebrated every year on 3 December.

The day is about promoting the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities at every level of society and development, and to raise awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of political, social, economic, and cultural life. WHO joins the UN in observing this day each year, reinforcing the importance of securing the rights of people with disabilities, so they can participate fully, equally and effectively in society with others, and face no barriers in all aspects of their lives.

Students had the opportunity to learn about the history of IDPD and to demonstrate respect and empathy for people with disabilities around the world.



Disability

- A disability is something which has a serious and lasting effect on a person's ability to do everyday tasks like looking after themselves or doing a job of work.

There are over 8.5 million disabled people in the U.K

Only 5% of people with disabilities use a wheelchair

Only 20% of disabilities are congenital

RESPECT



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RESPECT— White Ribbon Day

The **White Ribbon Campaign (WRC)** is a global movement of men and boys working to end male violence against women and girls. It was formed by a group of pro-feminist men in Toronto, Ontario, in November 1991 as a response to the École Polytechnique massacre of female students by Marc Lépine in 1989.

The campaign was intended to raise awareness about the prevalence of male violence against women, with the ribbon symbolizing "the idea of men giving up their arms". Active in over 60 countries, the movement seeks to promote healthy relationships, gender equity, and a compassionate vision of masculinity. In the UK, White Ribbon Day is observed on the 25th of November.

Mr Condley, Head of Year 9, delivered an assembly to all year groups to show the importance of White Ribbon Day and how we can as a society to end violence against women and girls.

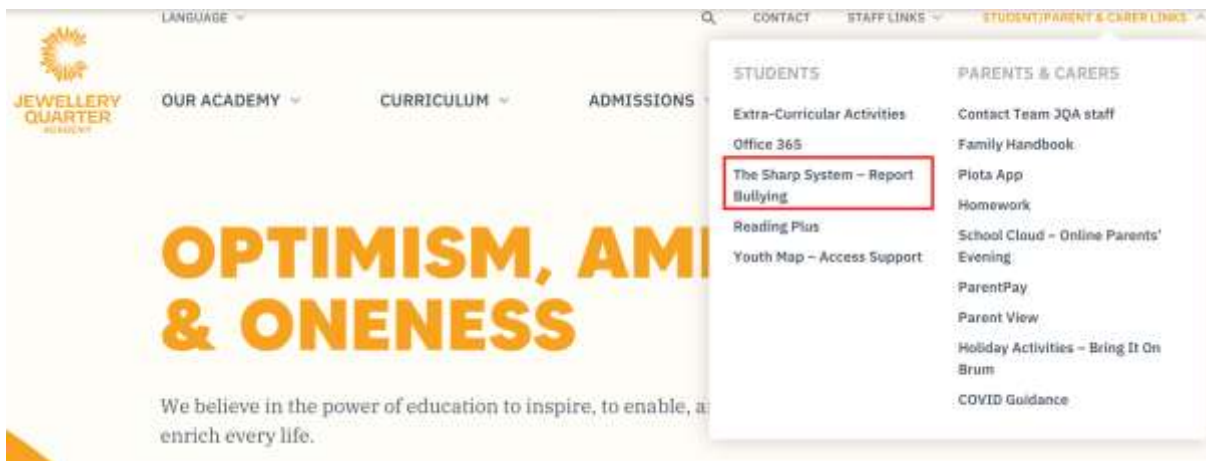


RESPECT— Anti-Bullying events

Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event held in the third week in November which aims to raise awareness of bullying of children and young people, in schools and elsewhere, and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. Anti-Bullying Week is organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) in England, which is made up of about 140 member organizations.

Jewellery Quarter Academy takes all different types of bullying very seriously. We promote our SHARP system, which allows young people to report any incidents including bullying anonymously and without fear.

We also promoted anti-bullying week with an assembly for all our year groups. This was conducted by Mr Mehmood, the Deputy Headteacher .



RESPECT— Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 17th December was an opportunity for our staff and students to have a Christmas dinner.

Staff and students had all the trimmings of a Christmas dinner from turkey to roast potatoes to brussels sprouts and top it off with gravy.



EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Student Parliament

During the last week of term, our Head Boy D’Angelo and Head Girl Zipporah, displayed excellent leadership skills when they visited the local community to wish them a Merry Christmas.

As young leaders in the school, they felt it was important for them to strengthen ties with the community, and to thank them for the ongoing support they show to our school community.



EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Attendance / FSM

Attendance Matters at Jewellery Quarter Academy

Our current school attendance stands at 92.03%, and while we have much to celebrate, we know we can do even better together. We're committed to supporting every student to attend school regularly so they can achieve their full potential.

A huge congratulations to our 145 students who have achieved 100% attendance – you're showing incredible commitment and setting a brilliant example for our whole school community. Your dedication is truly outstanding!

Every day lost is linked to a decrease of £750 in future earnings but the impact goes far beyond this. Regular attendance helps students:

- Keep up with their learning and achieve their full potential
- Build strong friendships and feel part of our school community
- Develop important life skills like punctuality and responsibility
- Access the full range of opportunities and experiences we offer

We understand that sometimes barriers to attendance can feel overwhelming. We're here to work with you, not against you. If your child is facing challenges getting to school, please reach out to us. Together, we can:

- Identify what's making attendance difficult
- Create a personalised plan to overcome these barriers
- Provide the right support for your family's individual circumstances

We want every student to benefit from being in school every day. Even small improvements can make a significant difference to your child's education and future opportunities.

If you're facing any barriers to your child's attendance, please contact Mrs Wilkinson (SWilkinson@corejewelleryquarter.academy) – we're here to support you.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Free school meals

Children, aged 19 years and under, can get a free school meal if their parent or carer receives one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (as long as household annual net earned income is no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from the 3 most recent assessments).
- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit—provided the household is not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and has an annual gross income no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on—paid for 4 weeks of no longer qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

If you believe this applies to you, please contact the Reception Team.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—12 Days of Christmas

12 Days of Christmas attendance incentive is promoting and rewarding outstanding attendance & punctuality during the festive period.

- **Eligibility:** Students must attend school everyday during the specified period.
- **Daily prizes:** Daily winners are drawn at random from all students in attendance on that day, with a 5 prizes per year group. These include cookie/cake voucher, jump the queue passes and chocolate bars.
- **Grand prizes:** To win the grand prizes, students must have attended all days between the specified dates.

This incentive not only rewards good attendance but also helps to create a positive school culture and supports students social and mental well-being.

**12 Days of
Christmas**



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Rewards and Recognitions

At the end of each term, we look back and celebrate all the effort, hard-work and achievements our wonderful pupils are making in their studies.

Our reward assemblies are a key part of our rewards programme, having three opportunities each year to celebrate.

The reward assemblies was held on Friday 19th of December and well done to the many pupils that received awards.



WHO TO CONTACT AT JQA

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education or time at Jewellery Quarter Academy can we ask that you contact the Year Group Coordinator for your child in the first instance.

The most effective way to do this is via email.

Please don't always expect an immediate response as all teachers have very busy timetables, but we will endeavour to reply the same day. The contact emails for each Year Group Coordinator are listed here.

Year 7 Mr C Tennent: CTennant@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 8 Mr G Christie: GChristie@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 9 Miss S Gardener: SGardener@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 10 Mr R Henderson: RHenderson@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 11 Miss C Whittaker: CWhittaker@corejewelleryquarter.academy



If you would like to contact the Well-Being team, email safeguarding@jewelleryquarter.academy If you have an urgent safeguarding issue, you can call our Designated Safeguarding Lead on 01217297220 Opt 3



Mr Tennent



Mr Christie



Miss Gardener



Mr Henderson



Miss Whittaker

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH JQA

Academy Voicemail

We recently changed our phone system after feedback from parents/carers to include the facility to leave a message if lines are busy.

You now have the option to leave a voice message on the Academy Voicemail by pressing **Option 1** in office hours and out of office hours too– this is checked twice a day at 8am and 12pm.

Please be sure to state your child's name clearly and who the message is for and one of Team JQA will get back to you.



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CONTACTING JQA

Contacting Reception

Our Reception remains open during the hours of 8am and 4pm.

The most effective way to contact us is via email at enquiry@corejewelleryquarter.academy

This account is monitored every day over the Summer.

You are, of course, welcome to drop in to Reception anytime during office hours.

You can also call us on 0121 729 7220



Reporting A Safeguarding Concern

If you would like to contact us with a specific concern over the summer , email; safeguarding@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Students can also complete a Sharp System referral for immediate support:

<https://jewelleryquarter.thesharpsystem.com/>



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