

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Jewellery Quarter Academy,

The start of the second half of the Summer Term has continued with pace and purpose, and we are now entering the main exam series for Year 11 and Year 10 as they begin their mocks.

Ofsted Monitoring Report

As you will be aware we had our first monitoring visit from Ofsted on the 10th of March. We have now received a report from Ofsted following a recent monitoring visit. The purpose of this visit was to identify and report on the school's progress in addressing priorities for improvement since the school's previous inspection and was not to determine grades for any of the evaluation areas set out in the new Ofsted inspection framework.

I am pleased to share that Ofsted concluded that *'there has been a clear focus on raising aspirations and expectations and that leaders have worked appropriately to establish a positive behaviour culture in school'*.

Our students were also praised with the inspector noting that *'pupils are generally friendly and polite to visitors, staff and each other and that they say that behaviour is now better and that staff deal with any infringements more consistently and fairly'*.

The report also included some encouraging comments around behaviour saying that *'staff and pupils now understand the behaviour policy and increased expectations around pupils' conduct and that staff receive ongoing training on how to support pupils' behaviour effectively'*.

Our support from CORE Education Trust was also mentioned with the inspector stating that *'the trust has ensured that the school is now fully staffed, including with subject experts across the curriculum'*.

I am glad that our work around improving attendance was recognised in the report as follows:

'The school's new systems and procedures to ensure pupils come to school regularly are effective. Pupils' attendance levels have improved and are now close to national averages. This includes that of disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND, which has improved significantly'.

While it's heartening to read the positive feedback in this report, we are aware there is always more to do as we guide the school through its improvement journey. We want JQA to be a school where every child enjoys learning and is excited about their future.

We will make sure to stay regularly in touch with parents and carers, so they feel fully aware of everything we are doing to support our students.

Thank you for your support, and if you have any questions about the report, or anything else, please don't hesitate to get in touch. A copy of the report will be available on the academy website.

Year 11

The summer GCSE exam season has started in full and a copy of the timetable has been published on the JQA Website [EXAMINATIONS - Jewellery Quarter Academy](#) We strongly recommend that parents/carers talk through the timetable with students in order to support them to make the best use of their time and to ensure that they have a revision schedule in place. We will ensure that students are prepared by providing revision materials and sessions before each exam but the more preparation that is completed the smoother the process of the exams will be.

Punctuality and Attendance

Whilst we have made some improvements in this area there is still more to be done to make sure, we maintain high levels of attendance. Parents/carers can support this by making sure that their son/daughter/children arrive on time, every day and avoid taking time off during the school term dates. Good attendance leads to good a good education overall and means students do not miss out on the opportunities provided.

The JQA Way

Literacy is a key focus for The JQA Way this term as we work with our students to take more of a focus on some of the foundational skills to do with their writing and literacy skills. Making sure that students use capital letters, full stops and punctuation in their writing is an important skill and something they would have all been taught to do in primary school. Taking time to re-read over their work and be able to identify these skills is important and essential for their future writing especially in exams.

Leadership Update

Following the announcement that the headteacher at Rockwood Academy will be moving to a new role at another school within Birmingham, I have been seconded by CORE Education Trust as Executive Headteacher across both Jewellery Quarter and Rockwood Academy to support leadership capacity across the Trust. This will not change my role at JQA where I will remain as Headteacher and lead the academy on its improvement journey and remain focused on its next steps.

Uniform

I would like to remind all parents/carers that students are expected to be in full school uniform or on PE days their JQA PE Kit up until the end of the academic year. This includes school shoes and not trainers.



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Facebook

A reminder that we recently launched our academy Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/CoreJQA> please look out for regular updates and posts about exciting events taking place at JQA.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 13th May – Year 7 Progress Evening

Friday 22nd May – Break up for Half Term at 3.10pm

Monday 1st June – Start of Summer Term 2 at 8.35am

Finally, thank you for all your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Henshaw", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

J Henshaw

Headteacher