

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Jewellery Quarter Academy,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2026.

I hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and break. It was great to welcome back our students last Tuesday and I want to thank all parents/carers and students for their support and joining the online TEAMS lessons on Friday last week due to the weather.

Our end of term Newsletter highlighted some of the key work and activities that our students have completed during the Autumn term, it certainly was a busy term, and we are expecting this term to be just as busy.

### **Attendance**

Thank you to all parents for encouraging your children to come to school. Our attendance last term ended on 92%. This is significantly below our standard expectations and has an impact on students learning.

Please remember, for minor ailments such as headaches, sore throats and minor cold's, students should attend school. Please refer to the NHS guide **Is my child too ill for school? - NHS** if you have any doubts as to whether your child should attend school.

If parents/carers wish to discuss their child attendance, please contact either the Head of Year or the Year Group Coordinator for your child.

### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

These began on Monday 12th January for two weeks. I hope that Year 11 students have spent time over the holidays preparing for them. As in previous mock examinations, we will be replicating how the examinations will be undertaken in the summer. We expect all students to have 100% attendance as they will not have the opportunity to resit any examinations that they miss. Year 11 students will be reminded of how to conduct themselves during examinations including handing in mobile phones, remaining silent during examinations, etc. The results of these examinations will be used to identify what needs to be done to further grades between now and the summer examinations.

I wish all Year 11 the best of luck with their examinations.

## The JQA Way

In lessons over the last term and continuing into this term we have been encouraging students to look at their presentation of their work. Ensuring that they present their work neatly and clearly provides students with a greater opportunity for using materials for revision and to support their long-term memory.

We have also introduced cold calling into lessons, this technique is where teachers select students at random to answer questions, we make sure that all students are given the opportunity to answer and share their thoughts and responses to key material learnt. This is a key part of priority 2, 5 and 6 of The JQA Way and our Teaching and Learning Principles.

<b>Principle 1</b>	A positive learning climate enables effective teaching and allows all students to learn.
<b>Principle 2</b>	Teaching ensures that students have a secure understanding.
<b>Principle 3</b>	Teaching connects knowledge elements explicitly.
<b>Principle 4</b>	Teaching models scholarship within a subject discipline.
<b>Principle 5</b>	Retrieval and interleaving will be explicit so students know, remember and can do more.
<b>Principle 6</b>	Checking for understanding will ensure responsive teaching.
<b>Principle 7</b>	Adaptive teaching will be routine so that all students can access and excel in learning.
<b>Principle 8</b>	Feedback will always move learning forward.

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> February – Year 9 Progress Evening

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Rewards Trips

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Spring Half Term

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – COREExplore/Opportunity Day

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Year 8 Progress Evening

Finally, thank you for all your continued support.



J Henshaw

Headteacher