

**16<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Re: End of Term Arrangements**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your support this term. It was wonderful to see parents/carers online last week at our Autumn Term Symposium. I would encourage all parents to complete our termly survey which closes on 19<sup>th</sup> December: <https://forms.office.com/r/uhDhJr3kdP> We really value your views as we continue to work together to make sure our children get the best.

**Continuing To Combat The 'Omicron' Variant of Covid-19 Over The Holidays**

On Friday, my team will issue additional lateral flow testing kits to all students so the Sunday/Wednesday rhythm of testing can be followed over the holidays. This is particularly important if seeing elderly relatives as the data suggests they are more likely to be at risk. Children aged 12-15 can also book their 'booster' vaccination from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 [via the NHS website](#) and many staff at JQA have already had their 3<sup>rd</sup> jab to protect themselves and others.

**Free School Meals Vouchers**

We will be issuing vouchers for families eligible for free school meals to cover the duration of the Christmas holidays. Parents/carers will receive a link to a voucher, valued at £30, via the email address they have provided to the Academy. Our reception is closed over the holidays so any enquiries of this nature should be received via telephone before 1pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**Maintaining High Standards in 2022**

I would like to remind parents and carers of the need to ensure students arrive at JQA 'smartly-dressed and ready for learning.' We have a clear uniform policy and set of suppliers and you can find this information here: <https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/school-life/uniform-equipment/>

It is every parent/carers' responsibility to ensure their child meets our high expectations. This includes bringing a face covering to wear at the Academy whilst temporary restrictions are still enforced.

**Returning To JQA in January 2022**

There is a scheduled staff training day on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Students return to JQA on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Arrangements for the return will be communicated over the



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Christmas period, taking into account the latest guidance and any further restrictions. It is currently planned that all students are expected to return in a staggered way on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January and take a lateral flow test on site in our 'Seacole Centre' before returning to face-to-face teaching. This will mean students arriving at specific times.

We have re-issued all students' Microsoft teams login details over the last two days and also reminded students of how to access online learning via Teams as a contingency in case the situation changes over the Christmas period. Rest assured, we will communicate any changes to the planned return on 5<sup>th</sup> January in a clear and timely way. However, we advise all parents/carers to check the Academy website at [www.corejewelleryquarter.academy](http://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy), our social media accounts on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and also to download the JQA app by searching for 'Piota' in your app store.

I wish you all a safe and peaceful holiday together and look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you in 2022.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr J Barton** - Head of School