

Together As One

One of the most striking parts of JQA culture is the sense of unity amongst the students. Not only are they all proud to wear their gold tie, they are so respectful to each other and also so welcoming to visitors to the Academy. We are proud to welcome students from all over the world with over 40 languages spoken at the Academy—some are born here, some are drawn here but we all call JQA home.

In that spirit of oneness, it's heart-warming to see the work we've done recently to reject bullying and unkindness as part of Anti-Bullying Week. Another highlight in the past fortnight was JQA students leading the community's 'Remembrance' activities at Warstone Lane cemetery. I was very proud to accompany students in CCF uniform as they read poems and laid a wreath, taking time to respectfully read through the names of people from this community who made the ultimate sacrifice.

We hold the highest ambitions for our students and this week marks a milestone moment in the journey ahead for our Year 11 students: the beginning of their first series of Mock Exams. We wish them every success but also take this opportunity to remind them that it does not come easy and there are no shortcuts on that road.

Finally, I am so excited to see the first fixtures as part of the 'CORE Games' this week. It will be fantastic to see young sportsmen and sportswomen, from across all four CORE academies, joining together to compete in a programme of sports events. Such is the talent at the Academy, I'm optimistic, as always, about Team JQA's chances of success!

Mr J Barton—Head of School



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 AT JQA...

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

22nd November —Year 11 Mock Exams begin

3rd December —Staff Training Day—Academy closed to students

9th December —Parent Symposium (online via Teams)

**Jewellery
Quarter Academy**

St George's Court
1 Albion Street
Birmingham
B1 3AA

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—Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 students have been busy preparing for their first Mock Exams which begin this week.

A full timetable is below and has been issued to students and also emailed/texted to all Year 11 parents/carers. It is also available on the website and app.

We wish all Year 11 students every success in these crucial assessments.

November Mock Exam Timetable

WEEK 1	09:00 AM - 10:00 AM	10:30 AM - 12:45 PM	1:15 PM - 3:15 PM
Friday 19th		Art - 5hr (43 Candidates) 09:10AM - 3:10PM	
Monday 22nd	NORMAL LESSONS	Science P1 Biology - 1hr 15min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 11:45AM	Performing Arts - 2hr (17 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:15PM Travel & Tourism - 1hr 10min (20 Candidates) 1:15PM - 2:25PM
Tuesday 23rd	NORMAL LESSONS	English Language P1 - 1hr 45min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 12:15PM	History Paper 1 - 1hr (62 Candidates) 1:15PM - 2:15PM Geography Paper 1 - 1hr 45min (44 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:00PM
Wednesday 24th	French A01 - H 45min F 35min (6 Candidates) H 09:00 - 09:45AM F 09:00 - 09:35AM	English Literature P1 - 1hr 45min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 12:15PM	Business - 1hr 30min (52 Candidates) 1:15PM-2:45PM
Thursday 25th	NORMAL LESSONS	Maths P1 (Non Calc) - 1hr 30min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 12:00PM	RE Paper 1 - 1hr 45min (31 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:00PM
Friday 26th	NORMAL LESSONS	Science P2 Chemistry - 1hr 15min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 11:45AM	Creative Media - 1hr 15min (33 Candidates) 1:15PM - 2:30PM
WEEK 2	09:00 AM - 10:00 AM	10:30 AM - 12:15 PM	1:15 PM - 3:10 PM
Monday 29th	NORMAL LESSONS	Science Physics P3 - 1hr 15min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 11:45AM	Hospitality & Catering - 1hr 30min (19 Candidates) 1:15PM - 2:45PM ICT - 1hr 45 min (22 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:00PM
Tuesday 30th	NORMAL LESSONS	English Language P2 - 1hr 45min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 12:15PM	History Paper 2 - 1hr (62 Candidates) 1:15PM - 2:15PM Geography Paper 2 - 1hr 45min (44 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:00PM
Wednesday 1st	French A03 - H 60min F 45min (6 Candidates) H 09:00 - 10:00AM F 09:00 - 09:45AM Sport - 1hr (22 Candidates) 09:00AM - 10:00AM Music - 1hr (14 Candidates) 09:00AM - 10:00AM	English Literature P2 - 2hr 15min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 12:45PM	French A04 - H 75min F 60min (6 Candidates) H 1:15PM - 2:30PM F 1:15PM - 2:15PM DT - 2hr (13 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:15PM Health & Social Care - 1hr (20 Candidates) 1:15PM - 2:15PM
Thursday 2nd	NORMAL LESSONS	Maths P2 (Calc) - 1hr 30min (107 Candidates) 10:30AM - 12:00PM	RE Paper 2 - 1hr 45min (31 Candidates) 1:15PM - 3:00PM

COLLABORATION—Debate Mate

Debate Mate at JQA is well underway. Over the last two weeks, we've had our first two sessions with over 20 students in attendance.

So far debates have ranged from "McDonalds or Burger King?"; to "Should the entire world be Vegan?" and even "What's the best thing to bring in a zombie apocalypse" but as we enter week 3, things are really starting to ramp up.

The first regional competitions are fast approaching, and we are going to need to up our game if we are to show that JQA has the best debaters in Birmingham. The topics will certainly become more ambitious!

If you haven't got involved already, there is still time

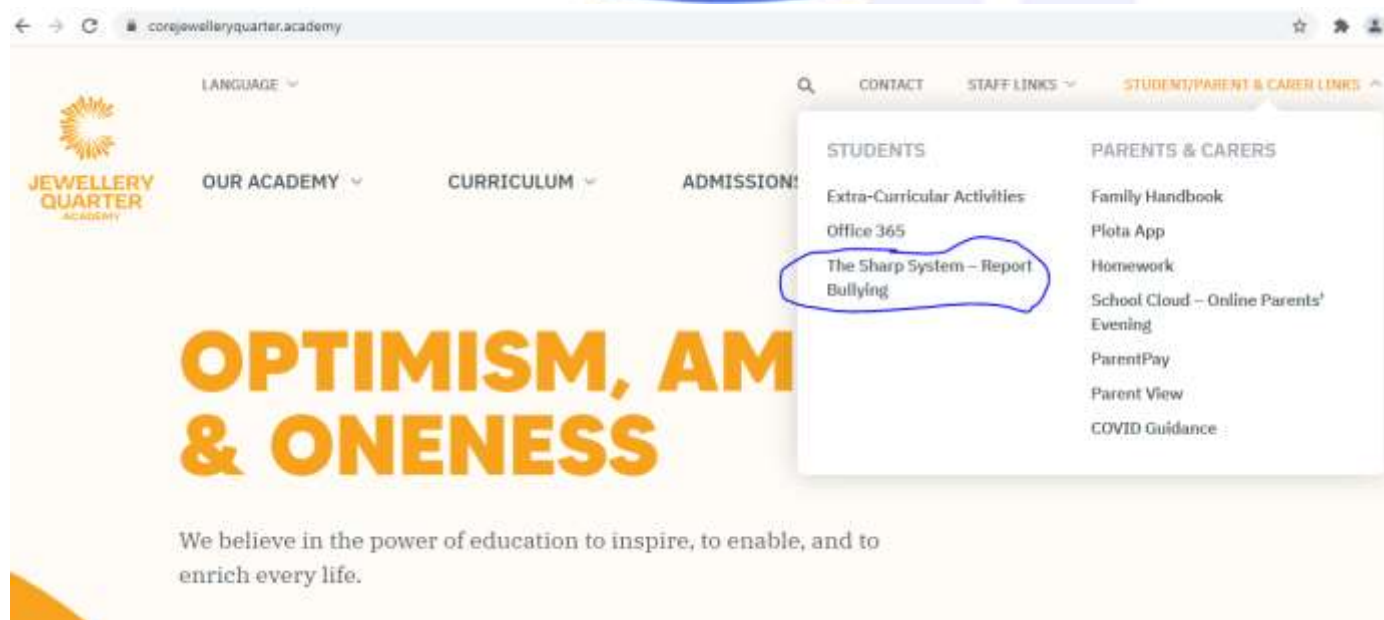
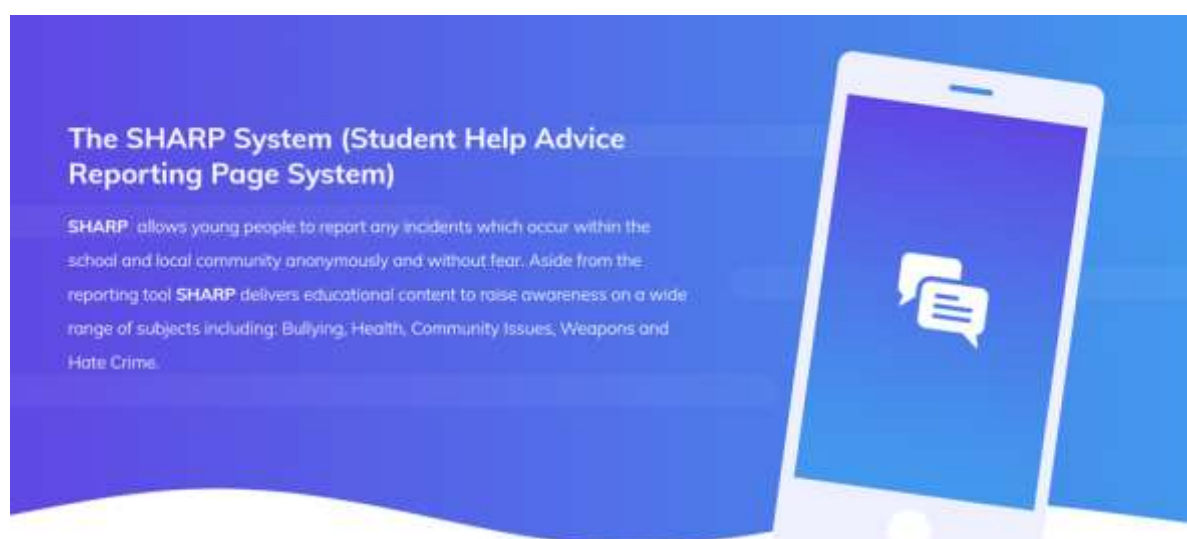
The sessions are every Tuesday at 3:10 in 110.



COLLABORATION—The Sharp System

The Sharp System allows JQA students to report any concerns directly to an adult at any time. Of course, students can report concerns in the Academy to any adult too.

Any student can access the Sharp System from the school's new website or Piota app in the student section. Any concerns can be reported securely, and a direct message will be received by the Head of School. You can leave your details; this would allow a member of the pastoral team to support you, or you can post anonymously – this means you won't need to leave your name. This may be useful when reporting a banned item or bullying of others. All issues will be dealt with discreetly and with care.



COLLABORATION—Continuing to Combat Covid 19

We hope you and your family are safe and well. Whilst the government has relaxed restrictions, we have kept some measures in place for everyone's safety and are ready to put further measures in place, if necessary.

We must remain vigilant as a community as the Autumn term continues; the transmission rates in the six local wards to JQA are reviewed weekly, with cases in school reviewed daily. We have published an Outbreak Management Plan on our website, and we will communicate with you on a Friday, should we need to put additional measures in place for the next week.

One of the biggest weapons against the spread of the virus, and its variants, is regular testing. We test at home now and students are regularly issued with lateral flow test kits. We test each Wednesday and Sunday. Texts and app alerts act as reminders to students, and we appreciate your ongoing support with this. Cases remain low locally (see below).

You can find out about our approaches to testing at home [here](#).



Reporting Results of Tests

No matter whether your child's result is negative or positive, it needs to be reported in two ways:

Firstly, log it with the govt website at: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Secondly, inform JQA at: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=B5YBH17oJEqzKU6mNYU9WAaZDuercVBn0a0Bt-LfvtUQ0hLRzINUjJJVUxKTFoxQlhMOFhMR0pCRC4u&wdLOR=c18B82C19-82D4-44BE-9590-86A18F30A6C1>

It is crucial that we continue to work together to ensure we can stay in track to return to the things we once took for granted.

Vaccinations

As a community, we strongly urge everyone to 'have the jab'. Many staff at JQA have recently had the vaccine and we are glad that they have, as unvaccinated people are more likely to be hospitalised by the virus.



COLLABORATION—Attendance Matters

Attendance Matters

All students are expected to arrive on time by 8.35am and attend school every single day.

We do not accept poor attendance, as students who are not at school are missing out on vital learning opportunities.

If your child is ill, you should call our Absence Line on 0121 729 7220 and press Option 2.

If your child is classed as 'persistently absent' (if their attendance drops below 90%) you can expect measures to be put in place to support you as a family to make sure your child's attendance improves.

We work in partnership with the Local Authority's legal team and will not hesitate to take action should your child's attendance not improve to our expected standards of 97%.

Attendance by Year Group for the last fortnight:

Year 7: 91.42%

Year 8: 88.76%

Year 9: 90.21%

Year 10: 94.9%

Year 11: 93.92%

Attendance during one school year ...	Equals this number of days absent ...	Which is approximately this many weeks absent ...	And means this number of lessons missed
95	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons

We are continuing to meet with families and begin legal proceedings in some cases.

If you have any questions about attendance, email khinz@corejewelleryquarter.academy



OPPORTUNITY— British Academy of Jewellery

Year 10 GCSE DT students took part in a metal workshop before half term at the British Academy of Jewellery, located at Birmingham Assay Office in the JQ.

Students had the opportunity to visit the school to learn some jewellery-making techniques and pathway options in further education.

The Assay Office is a prestigious part of the Jewellery Quarter in testing and certifying precious metals and it is important that students have the chance to connect with the local community.

The day began with a talk around diplomas and apprenticeships, followed by a design challenge and then into the workshop. The workshop was the highlight for the students in which they made their own keyring using a range of machines and techniques including drilling, rolling, carving, filing and stamping different metals.

You can see from their creations how valuable this experience was in gaining skills for their course and life after JQA.



OPPORTUNITY— Year 10 Football

JQA took a youthful Under-15s side to fellow CORE Trust school Arena Academy last Thursday for their hotly anticipated ESSFA Aston Cup tie.

The squad, inclusive of a number of Year 9 and 8 students, put in a brave performance against their more experienced counterparts in darkening conditions, eventually succumbed to a 7-0 defeat.

A loss on paper but good experience gained for our younger students Dilyee, Dejaun, Nana, Sean and Mohammed. Their resilience and togetherness shone throughout.

We wish Arena Academy the best of luck in the rest of the competition.



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OPPORTUNITY—CORE Games

The inaugural CORE Games begin in earnest next Thursday as JQA send a team of KS4 girls and boys to take part in the first football tournament of the competition at Arena Academy. Furthermore, KS3 girls and boys will also travel to Great Barr a week later as we look to take the CORE Education Trust football crown.

The CORE Games will continue past Christmas and into the new year, as other sporting competitions take place across the CORE family of schools. Other events include Dodgeball, Table Tennis, Netball, Softball and Rounders. We hope there will be lots of interest from students eager to compete and represent Team JQA. We will share our progress in the league title as we compete for the coveted CORE Games trophy.

The CORE Games will culminate in a prestigious Athletics event, where the best athletes from across the CORE family of schools will compete for the CORE games title. Go for gold, Team JQA!



RESPECT—Remembrance

On Thursday 11th November, Remembrance Day was proudly observed across the academy in a variety of ways, which showed our respect for the fallen .

Firstly, in the week leading up to Remembrance Day, our Combined Cadet Force students were busy selling poppies to students and staff.



Students in Year 7 have been working on their own poppy designs in DT with Miss Brasier, as you can see in this fantastic design below.



RESPECT—Remembrance

Secondly, students visited Warstone Lane cemetery to mark Remembrance Day on 11th November. Students read 'For The Fallen' and 'In Flanders Field' before taking time to read the names of the fallen and laying a wreath to commemorate the sacrifice so many people made for our freedoms.

The students conducted themselves fantastically, wonderfully embodying the CORE value of Respect throughout and taking the lead in community Remembrance activities.



RESPECT—Remembrance

Students in Year 9 also had the opportunity to study a special remembrance tapestry, featuring poppies stitched during 2020 by some of our JQA students whose families were 'key workers' during the lockdown and members of the local community.

The tapestry was brought into school by Josie Wall from the Jewellery Quarter Cemeteries Project. The tapestry features a mixture of red, white, black and purple poppies, as well as dog tags featuring the name and rank of soldiers who gave their life in the First World War and are buried in Warstone and Key Hill cemeteries.



RESPECT—Anti Bullying Week

The 14th Dalai Lama once said “Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.”- a quote that is beautifully aligned with the motto for this year’s Anti-Bullying Week; which is ‘One Kind Word’. This year’s Anti-Bullying Week, and its theme have been adopted in the wake of the struggles and isolation brought about as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

A report by the NSPCC showed that thousands of calls were made by young people as a result of isolation and reduced access to support networks, and fear about the virus and other family members that they may have been unable to see, among other concerns. In the wake of this, we at JQA stand in solidarity with the theme of ‘One Kind Word’. Within pastoral activities this week, and assemblies (led by Mr Nott), we have been reflecting on the impact one kind word can have on someone, and how we can follow this up with actions that demonstrate kindness to one another; a natural extension of our CORE value of Respect.



RESPECT—Odd Socks Day

Another part of our commitment Anti-Bullying Week was the wearing of odd socks on Monday (15th November). Both staff and students wore odd socks to school in solidarity with our commitment to oppose bullying in all its forms within the Academy. This was an opportunity for us to wear our most garish combinations of odd socks to celebrate the idea of each other's differences and uniqueness. Mr Barton wore combinations of his customary 'animal' socks to celebrate the beauty in difference.

The JQA family invites you to join with the theme of 'One Kind Word', and to brighten one another's day/week with a word of encouragement...not just this week but as part of an ongoing commitment to kindness.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Homework

The Jewellery Quarter Academy Homework Policy has been designed to be a key part of our relentless pursuit of academic excellence.

Homework enhances students learning, improves achievement, offers additional curriculum time and develops study skills, which make it an integral part of the learning process.

Homework at Jewellery Quarter Academy will be used:

- To prepare for new learning.
- To consolidate the learning that has taken place during a lesson, giving you the opportunity to practice and refine particular aspects of your knowledge, and understanding.
- To stretch knowledge and understanding beyond the curriculum.

All our KS4 students will be required to do a minimum of 90 minutes of written homework per night and a maximum of 120 minutes. For KS3 students, it will be a minimum of 60 minutes written homework and a maximum of 90 minutes.

All students will be expected to complete a daily entry in their homework exercise book, which will be issued to all students by form tutors. All homework tasks will be set by classroom teachers.

Students' homework exercise books will be checked by their classroom teacher and those who have gone above and beyond with their homework will be rewarded with a merit sticker.

Students who fail to complete homework, or whose homework is not completed to a passing standard, will receive a 'H' in their planner and if they are given 3 'H' stamps in a week, then they will be issued with a C60 by their form tutor to support them further.

If a student loses their homework exercise book then they will be required to buy a new one at a cost of £1 and will receive coaching from their tutor on managing and organising themselves – a key character trait.

All homework tasks will either be:

- Reading with comprehension questions
- Recap quizzes
- Essay Writing/Extended Writing

We also have a range of activities families can do together to test students on key knowledge or concepts in our **Home Learning Collaboration** documents.

These can be found on the Home Learning sections of our Piota app.

All these activities link to learning students are currently doing in the classroom in different subjects and we encourage parents/carers to use these to further reinforce learning with additional activities and conversations around key topics.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—KS3 Homework

Year 7 Homework Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7MMO Drama 7MMO Music 7KBR Music 7KBR IT 7KBR History 7CWI Music 7CWI IT 7FKH DT 7FKH History 7FKH Art 7ZKH RE	7MMO History 7MMO Geography 7KBR RE 7CWI RE 7CWI MFL 7FKH Geography 7ZKH Geography 7ZKH IT	English (All Year 7) 7MMO Art 7KBR DT 7KBR Art 7CWI DT 7FKH Music 7ZKH Music 7ZKH MFL	Science (All Year 7) 7MMO RE 7KBR Music 7CWI History 7FKH IT 7ZKH History 7ZKH Drama	Mathematics (All Year 7) 7MMO Drama 7MMO IT 7KBR Geography 7KBR MFL 7CWI Art 7CWI Music 7FKH Drama 7FKH MFL 7ZKH Art

Year 8 Homework Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English (All Year 8) 8C RE 8O Drama 8O Music 8R Drama 8E Music 8E Geography 8E MFL 8D RE 8D Art	Science (All Year 8) 8C Geography 8C IT 8O DT 8O IT 8R Music	8C History 8C MFL 8O History 8O Art 8R Geography 8E RE 8E DT 8D IT	8C Art 8C DT 8O RE 8R MFL 8R History 8R DT 8E History 8E IT 8D MFL 8D Music 8D Drama	Mathematics (All Year 8) 8C Drama 8C Music 8O Geography 8O MFL 8O Art 8R RE 8R Art 8E Drama 8D DT 8D Geography

Year 9 Homework Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English (All Year 9) 9O Geography 9R Geography 9R Drama 9D Geography 9D DT	9C IT 9C RE 9C MFL 9O Music 9O DT 9R Music 9R MFL 9E IT 9E MFL 9E Geography 9D Music 9D Art	Science (All Year 9) 9C Geography 9O Drama 9O RE 9R RE 9R DT 9E History 9E Art 9D RE 9D MFL	9C Drama 9C Music 9C DT 9C History 9O Art 9O MFL 9R IT 9R Art 9E Music 9E Drama 9D Drama	Mathematics (All Year 9) 9C Art 9O History 9R History 9E DT 9E RE 9D History 9D IT

EXCELLENCE AT JQA—KS4 Homework

Year 10 Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10A Music 10A Business Studies 10B Business Studies 10A Health & Social Care 10B Health & Social Care 10 Art	Science (All Year 10) 10B Performing Arts 10B DT	Mathematics (All Year 10) 10 1 Geography 10 2 Geography 10A Sports Studies	English (All Year 10)	10B IT 10B MFL 10 1 History 10 2 History 10 3 History

Year 11 Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science (All Year 11) 11B Business Studies 11A IT 11A Creative iMedia 11B Creative iMedia 11A Health & Social Care 11 Art	11C Music 11C Business Studies 11C DT 11C Sports Studies 11C Health & Social Care 11 1 Geography 11 2 Geography	English (All Year 11) 11B Performing Arts 11B RE	Mathematics (All Year 11) 11A RE	11 1 History 11 2 History 11 3 History 11C1 MFL

All homework timetables and our clear policy can be found at:

<https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/curriculum/homework/>



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WHO TO CONTACT AT JQA

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education or time at Jewellery Quarter Academy we can ask that you contact the Head of Year 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 Head of Year are listed here.

Year 7 Miss F Clarke: fclarke@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 8 Miss M Seleshe: mseleshe@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 9 Miss H Fashina: hfashina@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 10 Mr C Kyffin: ckyffin@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 11 Miss S Ivey: sivey@corejewelleryquarter.academy



If you would like to contact the Well-Being team, email safeguarding@corejewelleryquarter.academy

If you have an urgent safeguarding issue, you can call our Designated Safeguarding Lead on 07823354044



Miss Clarke



Miss Seleshe



Miss Fashina



Mr Kyffin



Miss Ivey

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 3 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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