



**JEWELLERY  
QUARTER**  
ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

1st October 2021

Proudly sponsored by **CORE** Education Trust

## Open Week

It has been wonderful to watch students speak passionately about issues that are important to them as the elections for Student Parliament took place last week. Opened officially by Shabana Mahmood, MP for Ladywood, all students voted to elect a representative for their form. I'm excited to see what developments the Parliament suggest next!

I have been busy visiting many local primary schools in the past week, meeting so many Year 6 students. We are looking forward to welcoming them and their families to JQA for tours all next week and to our Open Evening on Wednesday 6th October.

Being part of the CORE family of schools gives us wonderful opportunities and I can't wait to hear from our Year 10 students who are heading to Buckingham Palace next week to take part in the launch of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Baton Relay launch. To give our students 'once in a lifetime' opportunities such as this, to make memories they will cherish forever, is a real privilege for us—we hope their families are very proud.

In a busy week next week, Year 11 begin crucial assessments as part of their Assessment Week and [I have written an important letter to Year 11 Parents and Carers regarding the proposals for exams in Summer 2022.](#)

On Friday of next week, the staff from Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust will be on site to deliver vaccines for students aged 12-15. We will shortly send out consent forms which should be returned in good time.

Finally, I must stress the importance of attendance. If students aren't in school, they cannot learn and we expect excellent attendance and support with this from all families. I look forward to seeing some of you at Open Evening on Wednesday.

Mr 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 giving 100% in everything we do.

## COMING UP...

Our Events calendar is online at  
[www.jewelleryquarter.academy/events](http://www.jewelleryquarter.academy/events)

**4th October:** Year 11 Assessment Week Begins

**6th October:** JQA Open Evening

**18th October:** Year 7-10 Assessment Week begins

**Jewellery  
Quarter Academy**

St George's Court  
1 Albion Street  
Birmingham

tel: 0121 729 7220 between 8am and 4pm

email: [enquiry@jewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:enquiry@jewelleryquarter.academy)

[www.jewelleryquarter.academy](http://www.jewelleryquarter.academy)

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

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

# COLLABORATION – Year 11 Information Evening

On Thursday 23rd September, JQA welcomed Year 11 parents and students on to the Academy. The event was held to give pupils and parents a better understanding of the journey our students go through in Year 11, and to allow them to start thinking about life after JQA.

The evening was a momentous occasion, as it was the first time in 18 months that parents and pupils have been able to come together at JQA following the pandemic and we were delighted with the fantastic turnout from parents, staff and students.

Overall, the evening was a real success with many families attending safely and the following external FE education providers showcasing what they have to offer Year 11 after they leave school, including: Birmingham City University, Cadbury College, Joseph Chamberlain College, BMet, Nishkam School, Sandwell College, Access Creative, Sport4life, Central Saint Michaels, The RAF, and The Academy of Contemporary Music.

Finally, all students that attended the event were given a free revision pack to allow them to prepare for their upcoming mock assessments and GCSE exams. Ofqual have now released details of the alterations for Year 11 exams in Summer 2022. [You can read a letter from Mr Barton about this here.](#)

We have high hopes for the 'Class of 2022' and can't wait to celebrate their results with them next August.



# COLLABORATION – JQA Open Week

## JQA Open Week – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Mr Barton has been busy visiting a number of local primary schools this week, as he meets with potential new students and tells them all about JQA and inviting them to our Open Evening on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

In addition to this, the school's 'Open Week' for prospective parents begins this week, which will allow everyone the opportunity to see first-hand how our school operates by booking themselves on to a tour, between 8.45 and 9.45.

The tours will be conducted in small groups which will allow parents and carers the chance to ask any questions about the Academy that they might have.

To book a place on an open morning tour, please click [here](#).



**YOU ARE INVITED  
TO OUR OPEN WEEK**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October to  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021



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# COLLABORATION–JQA Open Evening

On Wednesday 6th October at 5pm, we invite all families of Year 6 students

Mr Barton will be delivering a presentation to parents at 6pm, where he will be explaining the vision for JQA and what it means to be a JQA student.

Tours around the Academy, with exciting activities, will be led by senior students at the school, as each faculty area showcases their incredible curricula.

**There is no appointment necessary for Open Evening and doors open at 5pm.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Open Mornings\*

**Monday 4th - Friday 8th October 2021**

**9:00am and 10:00am**

\*Open morning tours need to be pre-booked.

It is a normal school day, therefore a great opportunity for parents to see 'first hand' how our school operates.

A tour of school is conducted in small groups where you will have the opportunity to ask any questions.

**To book a place on an open morning visit:**

**[tinyurl.com/JQAYear6Tours](https://tinyurl.com/JQAYear6Tours)**

## Open Evening

**Wednesday 6th October 2021**

**Doors open at 5:00pm**

All are welcome and no appointment necessary.

Senior Leadership will deliver a presentation to parents around life at Jewellery Quarter Academy.

Senior Leadership presentation at 6:00pm.

Open evening tours are led by senior students to all of our faculty areas.

## CONTACT US

Jewellery Quarter Academy

St George's Court, 1 Albion Street

B1 3AA

0121 729 7220

[enquiry@corejewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:enquiry@corejewelleryquarter.academy)

[www.jewelleryquarter.academy](http://www.jewelleryquarter.academy)

Head of School: Jamie Barton



 Follow us on Twitter  
**@COREJQAcademy**

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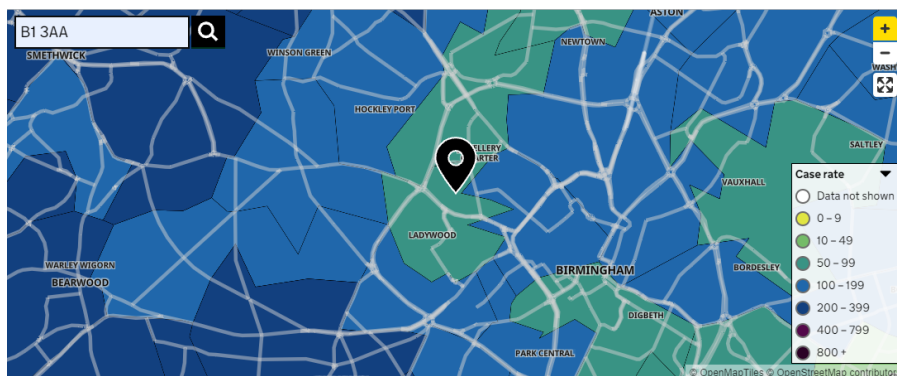
# COLLABORATION—Continuing to Combat Covid

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. Community transmission rates per 100,00 people remain low as you can see from the diagram to the right.

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 teach Wednesday and Sunday. Texts and app alerts act as reminders to students, and we appreciate your ongoing support with this.

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 gov 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.

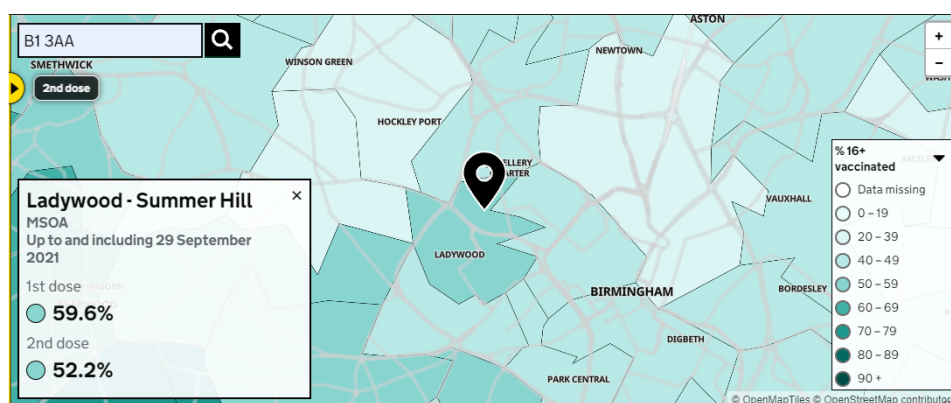
## Vaccinations on Friday 8th October 2021

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 adults are more likely to be hospitalised by the virus. Below is an infographic, outlining the vaccination rates across our community.

You may have heard the news that the government has recommended that all children between 12 and 15 have the 'jab' and we have been informed that [vaccinations will take place on Friday 8th October](#).

Next week, we will issue consent letters and more information.

Percentage of people aged 16+ vaccinated up to and including 29 September 2021:



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# 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%.

Please see the following [letter](#) outlining our partnership work with the Local Authority's legal team.

## Attendance by Year Group (20/09/21 – 01/10/21)

Year 7:

Year 8:

Year 9:

Year 10:

Year 11:

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

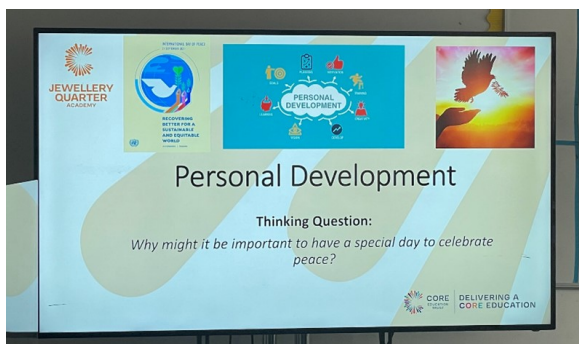


# OPPORTUNITY–International Day of Peace

Last week, on the 21st of September, JQA observed the annual International Day of Peace, a global celebration established in 1981 by the UN General Assembly.

The International Day of Peace is declared by the UN General Assembly as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

The theme of this year's day was 'Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world'. Here at JQA we marked this occasion with a Personal Development session where students discussed the meanings of equity and sustainability and explored different ways in which they could make a positive contribution to global peace.



# OPPORTUNITY–Black History Month

Martin Luther King once said, “we are not makers of history; we are made by history”.

This is no less true for Black History, which is an inextricable part of every nation, culture, and civilisation it has touched.

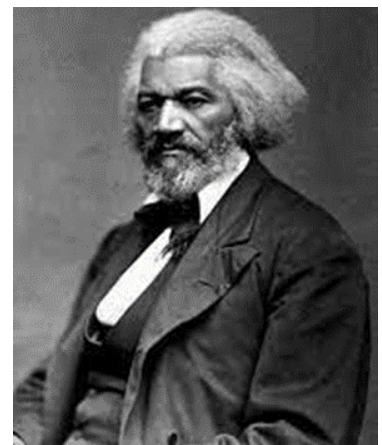
Every October, students have the opportunity to take a deeper look into the impact of black figures throughout UK and World History, and the indelible mark these figures have left on the human race.

To commemorate Black History Month, we at JQA are running a number of events, including assemblies, competitions, and showcases of talent through music, dance and other representative arts; all inspired by the giants on whose shoulders we stand.

From pioneers such as Martin Luther King, George Washington Carver, or Lonnie Johnson; to household names such as Oprah Winfrey, Denzel Washington, and Morgan Freeman.

From leaders like Barack Obama, Mansa Musa; to ‘thinkers’ and ‘world changers’ like Olaudah Equiano, or Frederick Douglass, **Black History is a part of all our history.**

We invite you as students and parents to celebrate with us.



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# OPPORTUNITY–Year 7 Swimming

Here at JQA we pride ourselves in giving a range of opportunities to our young people which support their development, not just in the classroom but also in life.

One of these opportunities is for our Year 7s to gain confidence and experience in water, we do this through swimming lessons.

Students are put into groups based on their swimming ability; the students then have instruction on different swimming strokes.

Students began with the front crawl stroke and refined their skills while building their confidence before moving on.

Students completed a range of activities in the water, including jumping in the deep end and completing lengths of the pool independently.

As the year progresses, there will be opportunities for students to gain various swimming badges and qualifications.



# OPPORTUNITY–The Queen's Baton Relay

Students at JQA have been given the incredible opportunity to take part in the Queen's Baton Relay event at Buckingham Palace in London.

The Queen's Baton Relay is a relay around the world held prior to the beginning of the Commonwealth Games.

The Baton carries a message from the Head of the Commonwealth, Queen Elizabeth II and the Baton Relay traditionally begins at Buckingham Palace in London as a part of the city's Commonwealth Day festivities. Students will be flag-bearers at this 'once in a lifetime' event.'

JQA students will have the opportunity to rub shoulders with members of the Government and Royal Family, as well as potentially appearing on BBC in this televised event.

We will share an update after the event on 7th October.



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# OPPORTUNITY–Student Parliament Year 7

At JQA we believe that having a Student Parliament supports students in understanding the function of democracy. It develops students' knowledge and understanding of the processes involved in the parliamentary system of government and it broadly teaches children how democracy works.

Shabana Mahmood, MP for Ladywood, [kindly opened our Elections this year with a video message.](#)

Students in all year groups were invited to take part in the elections by writing a speech and delivering it to their tutor groups. In their speeches, students stated why they thought they would be a good choice for the student parliament and what they thought they could offer their peers if they were elected.

Elections then took place whereby students were given a voting slip which they were to write the name of their chosen candidate on. Students were reminded of the importance of privacy in the election process and were told about the importance of respecting everyone's views and opinions. Students then put their votes in the ballot box and the votes were counted. The students with the most votes won the election and are now proud members of JQA's Student Parliament, wearing their pin badges with pride.

It was the first time our new Year 7 students have taken part and their election returned the following Parliament members: Haniy our Y7CWI representative, Hakari from Y7MMO. Y7KBRs student parliament member is Leila, Simerpreet for Y7FKH and Kasnet from Y7ZKH (pictured below)

It was fantastic to see students collaborate throughout the process, listening to each speech with careful consideration, respectfully casting their votes and having the opportunity to experience an election first-hand. We look forward to the first Parliament meeting on Tuesday, chaired by Head students, Mohammed and Farhiya. The full list of successful candidates is overleaf.



# OPPORTUNITY–Student Parliament 2021

Last week, all students were given the opportunity to take part in student leadership elections.

Here at JQA, we have a Student Parliament to give students a voice and a platform for them to bring about positive changes as a result of bringing forward feedback from their peers. True democracy in action. Changes the Parliament has made so far include:

- Coats in corridors (but not in classrooms)
- Longer breaks and lunches
- Later start
- Library and Hatch renovations

After a highly contested vote, the following students were elected for 2021/22

Year 7: Haniy, Hakari, Leila, Simerpreet, Kasnet.

Year 8: Rashiya, Lavinia, Haythem, Mahim and Alaa.

Year 9: Grace, Wade, Kelvin, Edson, and Ahmed.

Year 10: Glody, Illum, Kamari, Urjuwaan, Aleen.

Year 11: Zakaria, Jalen, Hamza, Malachi, Suhayb.

Congratulations and well done to all the candidates who took the opportunity to run in the election. You have shown great confidence and should be very proud.





# RESPECT– JQA Free Breakfast Provision

The Academy recognises that the pandemic has provided additional financial pressures for families.

The government ended their funding of the Magic Breakfast scheme, so we have found an alternative through an organisation that Marcus Rashford has previously worked with, called FareShare. This gives us the opportunity to partner up with local supermarket Tesco, at both Spring Hill and the Chamberlain Clock, who provide us with bread and fruit, and sometimes delicious pastries, such as pan au chocolate and croissants.

Our amazing Year Group Co-ordinators prepare plenty of toast too and this ensures that all our students can start the day in the right way.

We encourage students to arrive early to grab some breakfast to be ready for a full day of learning.



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# RESPECT–Litter Picking

At JQA, we have an expression, 'sweep the sheds,' this expression captures the important character trait of respect and humility, that we want to see in all our students.

We expect our students to take responsibility for their own actions and not to have a sense of entitlement, that someone else will do something for them. This means looking after our Academy by placing litter in the bins.

If there is ever litter on the floor, we expect our students to pick it up, because this school belongs to all of us, and it is up to us, and us alone, to make sure it continues to be a better place.

The spirit of 'sweep the sheds' has recently been embodied by Yasin in Year 9, Renee in Year 11 and others, who have been volunteering at break and lunch time to pick up any litter they see in the playground.

These student helpers are fantastic ambassadors for JQA and their leadership and commitment to making the school a better place is a joy to behold.



# EXCELLENCE AT JQA–Student Leadership

The new Head Students met the Governors last week. Here they tell you all about what they hope to achieve this year.

## Welcome From the new JQA Head Girl:

Hello everyone,

I am honoured to be new the head girl at JQA. The chance to be the Head Girl of this school, is a huge achievement for me and I aspire to make good use of the role by working alongside teachers and students to develop this already great school through ensuring every student's voice is heard, everyone can participate in all aspects of school life and everyone can live and breathe our CORE values of Collaboration, Opportunity, Respect and Excellence. I want every student at JQA to have a joyous and memorable experience of school, which will allow every student to achieve and grow.

Thank You

Farhiya



## Welcome From the new JQA Head Boy

Hello everyone,

I am Mohammad and I am deeply grateful to Mr. Tully and the other staff members at JQA for giving me the opportunity to serve as your head boy this year. I promise that I will give 100% in serving every student at JQA, and I will use this prestigious position to collaborate with other members of our student parliament to improve the school as much as I can.

Thank you so much, I will be seeing you around the school.

Have a great day

Mohammad



# EXCELLENCE AT JQA–Reading Success

Last academic year, all students at JQA sat the NGRT reading assessment, a reading test that is taken by thousands of students nationwide, to assess their reading ability.

Recently, we received the results of these NGRT assessments and we were delighted to find that a number of our students had achieved results that place them in the top 5% of the entire country.

Firstly, one Year 9 student, Cody, achieved an incredibly 138 out of 140, which places Cody in the top 2% of students nationally for reading. Secondly, Renda, another Year 9 student, also achieved an amazing score of 130 out of 140, which also puts them in the top 5% for reading.

Finally, Simon, a Year 8 student, scored 127 out of 140 in the assessment, which places them in the very top band for students nationally.

We are delighted that our students not only excelled within their year groups, but also at a nationwide level. We are proud of the achievements of these students, and they were recently awarded with a headteacher award from Mr Barton.



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# EXCELLENCE AT JQA–Form Time Reading

It is vital that all of our students are regularly reading in and out of school. We encourage all our students to read at home and the new Equiano library, which will be opening this half term, will mean that students have a wide and varied array of books to choose from.

The link between reading and successful students at GCSE is clear and to this end we are introducing form time reading from the start of October.

The texts have been selected carefully to ensure that the narratives address age-appropriate themes, as well as giving students the opportunity to address their culture capital and explore some of the very best young fiction.

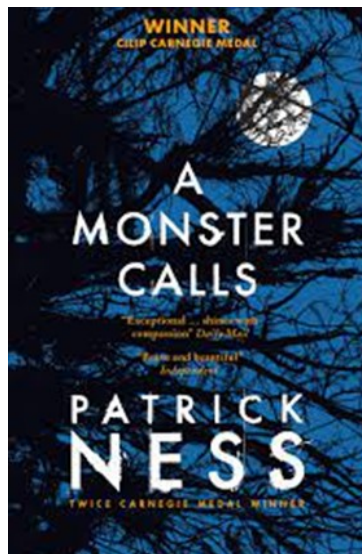
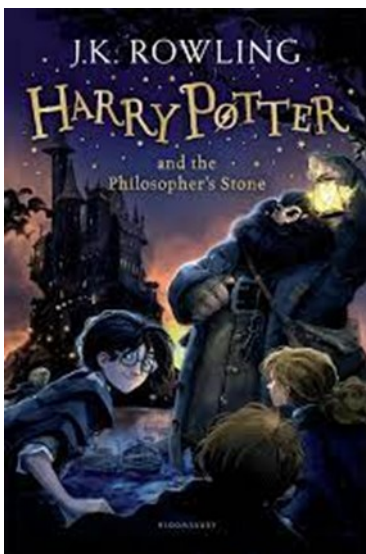
Students in Year 7 will be reading 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness.

Students in Year 8 will be reading 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by J.K. Rowling.

Students in Year 9 will be reading 'Noughts and Crosses' by Malorie Blackman.

In order to support this initiative, we ask all parents and carers to regularly ask your child about the book they are reading in form time.

They may want to discuss the plot and characters with you and the issues and experiences those characters face. Furthermore, ensuring your child has access to other reading material and that they are reading for a minimum of 20 minutes each day, will also ensure your child's reading development continuously accelerates.



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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 can we 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](mailto:fclarke@corejewelleryquarter.academy)

**Year 8 Miss M Seleshe:** [mseleshe@corejewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:mseleshe@corejewelleryquarter.academy)

**Year 9 Miss H Fashina:** [hfashina@corejewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:hfashina@corejewelleryquarter.academy)

**Year 10 Mr C Kyffin:** [ckyffin@corejewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:ckyffin@corejewelleryquarter.academy)

**Year 11 Miss S Ivey:** [sivey@corejewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:sivey@corejewelleryquarter.academy)

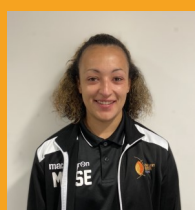


If you would like to contact the Well-Being team, email [safeguarding@jewelleryquarter.academy](mailto:safeguarding@jewelleryquarter.academy)

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 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



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