

3rd December 2021

Proudly sponsored by CORE Education Trust

Always Optimistic

Always at JQA, our wonderful students rise to any challenges and last week saw the re-introduction of face coverings in communal spaces—a reminder that the pandemic has not gone away. I'd like to thank all students for how adaptable and mature they have been. Our safety measures being observed by students so well was one of the chief reasons JQA never closed last year and I'm confident our students will continue to rise to any challenges this pandemic provides.

As we move into the Christmas period, a key part of the festive season is togetherness. I'd like to welcome all parents/carers to the Autumn symposium on Thursday (see page 2) - a chance to continue to work together to continue to develop the Academy for our children. It's heart-warming to see students from across CORE Education Trust come together in the CORE US vocal group to record a charity version of 'Lift Every Voice and Sing'—with proceeds going to the charity Shelter which does so much great work for the homeless and those with housing issues. We encourage parents/carers to download and donate to make a difference.

I'd like to congratulate Year 11 students on a successful first round of Mock Exams. We will shortly have a mock 'Results Day' where grades will be shared and there's a chance in mid-January for parents and carers to discuss these with their child's teacher.

Finally, we look ahead to the end of the Autumn Term and this is a time for reflection but also for reward and recognition. I'm looking forward to all the events to celebrate the achievement of students this term and we will be able to share more of these in the next edition.

Thanks for your continued support.

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/>

9th December 2021 —Parent Symposium (online via Teams) and survey opens

10th December 2021 —Christmas Accessory Day
? - Year 11 Mock Results Day

17th December—End of Autumn Term (students dismissed at 12.25).

4th January 2022—Staff Training Day

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)

**Jewellery
Quarter Academy**

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

COLLABORATION—Parent Symposium

We would like to invite all parents to join us for our Autumn Symposium on Thursday 9th December.

Each term, we run a symposium in order to meet with parents and share important Academy updates.

It also gives us the opportunity to take feedback via our termly survey which opens immediately after the symposium and is emailed to all parents/carers.

The event on Thursday 9th December takes place virtually via Microsoft Teams and [this link will take you straight to the meeting.](#)

Parents/carers will need their child's email address and login details to access the event which begins online at 5.30pm.

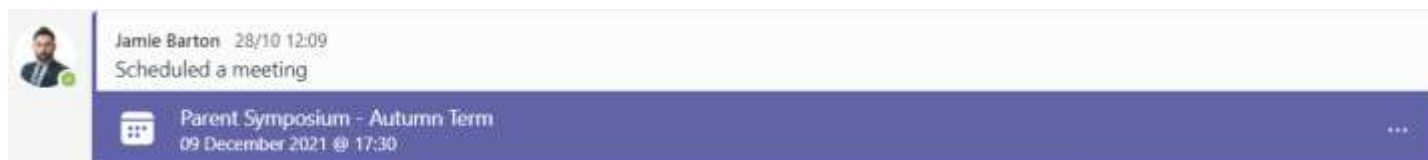
You can also access the link from the home page of the Academy website, in the Events section:



The termly survey will be emailed out to all parents/carers on Friday morning and closes on Friday 17th December.

As always, one lucky respondent, who is randomly selected, will win our termly Collaboration prize.

We look forward to seeing you online on Thursday and for your positive feedback in the latest survey.



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COLLABORATION—Admissions 2023/24

We publish the arrangements for admissions on our website at <https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/admissions/>

We invite parents and carers to give views on the 23/24 admission arrangements here: <https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/proposed-admission-arrangements-for-september-2023/consultation/intro/>

This is open until 3rd January 2022.

We look forward to hearing your views.



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COLLABORATION—Face Coverings

From 29th November 2021, the Department For Education has advised all schools to ensure students, staff and visitors wear face coverings in communal spaces.

This is in response to ongoing concerns around the Omicron variant of coronavirus.

An important letter from Mr Barton is now online:

<https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/28thNovemberLetterToParentsCovidMeasures.pdf>

It is expected that parents and carers provide their child with a face covering and check that they have it with them before they leave the house each morning.

Staff at the Academy will enforce this on entry on the gates and throughout the Academy day. Any parents/carers coming to Reception are reminded that face coverings are expected.

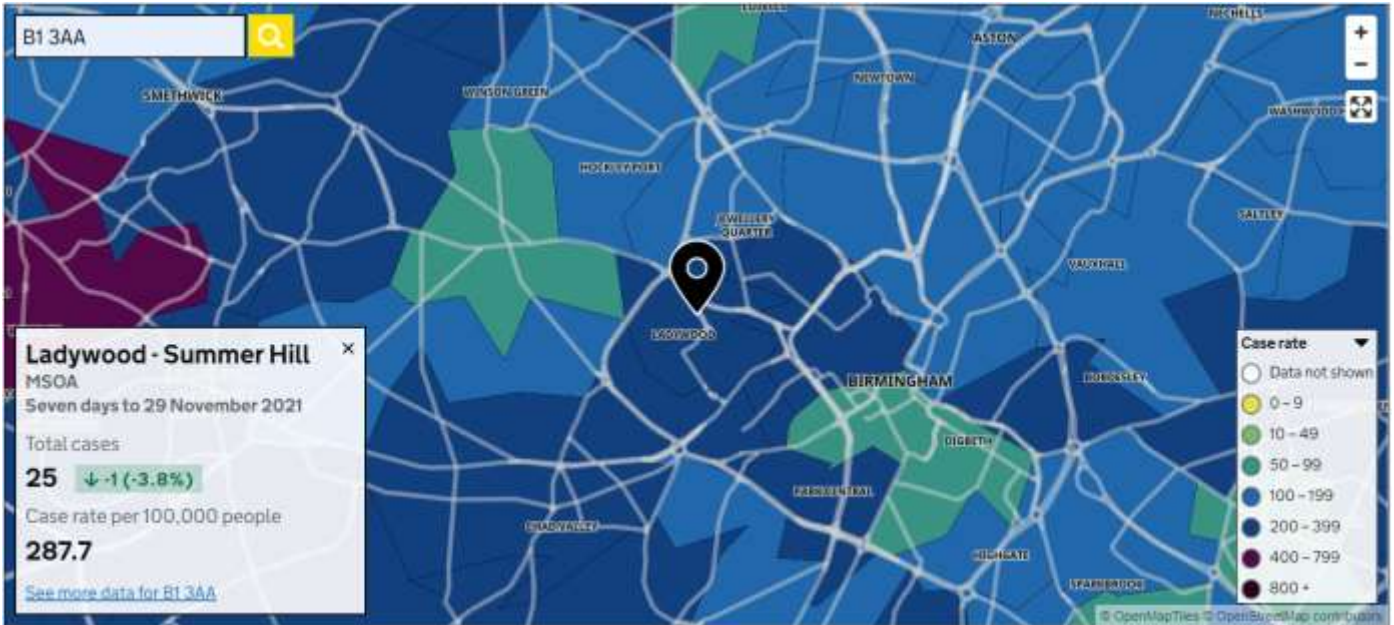
Parents/carers and students are also reminded that face coverings are also now mandatory on public transport and in shops until further notice.



COLLABORATION—Continuing to Combat Covid 19

We hope you and your family are safe and well. With the emergence of a variant of concern, we have introduced additional measures at the Academy, including face coverings in communal spaces and the limiting of public gatherings indoors such as assemblies and staff meetings.

We must remain vigilant as a community in the run up to Christmas; 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 gov't website at: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Secondly, inform JQA at: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=B5YBHI7oJEqzKU6mNYU9WAaZDuercVBn0a0Bt-LfvtUQ0hLRzINUjJVUxKTFoxQlhMOFhMR0pCRC4u&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 and boosters

As a community, we strongly urge everyone to 'have the jab'. Many staff and students 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: 91.21%

Year 8: 85.42%

Year 9: 86.79%

Year 10: 91.69%

Year 11: 91.88%

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— Echo Eternal

JQA is a Beacon school for Holocaust Education. Year 8 students recently worked with external partners in the What I've Scene project.

Comprising practical sessions with students and teacher training, facilitated by Mira Hirsch, and an evaluative study, conducted by Dr Samantha Mitschke, the What I've Scene project teaches about and engages students with the Holocaust using theatre techniques and survivor testimony.

During a two-day visit to the school by Ms Hirsch and Dr Mitschke, Year 8 students took part in a full day of sessions with Ms Hirsch, and presented their group performances to other students in the school on the second day. Teachers were invited to observe these sessions and performances, and to participate in teacher training with Ms Hirsch on the second day.



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OPPORTUNITY— CORE Games

JQA took part in the latest CORE Games fixtures which were held at Arena Academy last week.

In the Key Stage 4 Football event, unfortunately our boys team had a mixed evening.

However, our Key Stage 4 girls team played three matches against Rockwood, City Academy and Arena and were victorious in all 3 matches.

Looking smart in their 'Jewellery Quarter Gold' kit, and on a lovely Autumn evening, the 'diamonds' defeated all three opponents, winning crucial points for Team JQA in the CORE Games league table.

Well done!



COREGAMES

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OPPORTUNITY— Aston Cup

JQA Under-13s boys produced a dominant and accomplished display in a 10-1 win against King Solomon.

The league and cup double-header success sees us progress to the next round of the Aston Cup and pick up three important points that move us to the top of the table.

Well done!



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OPPORTUNITY— CORE Us Charity Single

Students from academies across CORE Education Trust form a vocal group called CORE Us.

This year, CORE Us has joined up with the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire to record a version of **'Lift Every Voice and Sing'**.

The proceeds from the single, which is released for download on Monday 8th December, will be given to the Shelter charity which supports homeless people in the UK.

DONATE.....www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lifteveryvoice.....PLEASE DONATE



We encourage all of our community to download this poignant piece which means so much to so many as the donations will make a difference to very vulnerable people this Winter.

You can download and donate at: <https://justgiving.com/fundraising/lifteveryvoice>



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RESPECT—Christmas at JQA

Christmas is officially underway in the Jewellery Quarter and we have seen the community light switch-on and street decorations to get us in the festive mood.

At JQA, student leaders in Year 8 were invited to decorate our tree in Reception.

Next week, in assemblies led by Mr Barton, students will all be invited to a sit-down Christmas meal in the Refectory as well as wear a 'Christmas Accessory' for school on Friday 10th December to raise money for Save The Children.

It is a time for reflection, rewards and recognition and we look forward to a wonderful end of term with some fantastic opportunities for students to celebrate together.



EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Homework

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/>

EXCELLENCE — Hot Choc Friday

Students from Year 7 and Year 8 were the top 4 merit earners in the Academy in the last two weeks.

D'Angelo, Darvin, Narone and Cindy joined Mr Barton for some sweet treats and a chance to talk about what they love most about JQA.

The students talked passionately about enjoying lessons and the chance to get involved in after-school clubs.

The next 'Hot Choc Friday' will be held on Friday 10th December and all students are encouraged to log their merits between now and then to stand a chance of qualifying.



MyStickers®



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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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