

Looking Ahead To 2022

Traditionally, the end of a year is a time to reflect and look forward too. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers join us for the termly Symposium via Teams. It gave us a chance to consider all the things we have achieved and accomplished so far this year. The termly [Parent Survey](#) is still open and I encourage you to complete it to share your views about the Academy. It has been wonderful to spend time rewarding and recognising the achievements of our students this last week. This edition gives a real flavour this. A particular highlight of the last fortnight for me was our COREUs students opening the final staff briefing with a virtual acapella performance of 'Lift Every Voice and Sing'. I'd like to invite you to [download this special version of the song and also donate generously to the Shelter charity](#) that does so much to support our most vulnerable, particularly at this time of year.

As we head into the Christmas holidays, [I have written to all parents in detail](#). Once again, we are facing a threat from a new Covid-19 variant, and we must be certain that we are ready and prepared for all possibilities. We have issued enough lateral flow tests to students so they can continue to test over the holidays and I am encouraging all of our community to have the jab—whether that is a first one or a booster—it's the best way to protect ourselves and each other.

We have published plans for the return of students in a staggered way on Wednesday 5th January 2021 over the page. I must insist that you follow the Academy social media and download the Piota app prior to Wednesday 5th January as we confirm these plans.

I wish you all a restful and safe break and I look forward to the many things we will accomplish together in 2022.

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/>

4th January 2022—Staff Training Day

5th January 2022—Students arrive back at school (staggered return) - **see p2 and please check Academy website to confirm plans**

13th January 2022—Year 11 Parents' Evening (Virtual via SchoolCloud)

**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—Returning to JQA in January

We are always taking feedback from staff, students and parents and have some changes in January. All students from January 5th will be admitted via the Pope St entrance which is outside and so therefore a safer way to welcome students in during the morning.

All students must bring a face covering to the Academy to wear in communal spaces until further notice. If students repeatedly do not, we shall insist on a small charge for providing these via Parent Pay.

We will ensure all corridor spaces are ventilated and students can of course wear their coats in corridors—but not in classrooms.

The proposed arrival arrangements for returning on Wednesday 5th January:

Year 7: arrive between 8.15-8.25 (free breakfast will be available) via Pope St Entrance and test from 8.15 with lessons starting at 9.00, having lunch at the usual time.

Year 9: arrive between 9.15-9.25 (free breakfast will be available) via Pope St Entrance and test from 9.15 and go to lessons at 10.25, having lunch at the usual time.

Year 8: arrive between 10.15-10.25 (via Equiano Entrance on Albion St) and test from 10.15 and go to lessons at 11.25, having lunch at the usual time.

Year 10: arrive between 11.15 –11.25 via Pope St Entrance and test from 11.15 and go to lessons at 12.25, having lunch at the usual time.

Year 11: arrive between 12.15—12.25 via Pope St Entrance and test then get lunch from 12.15 and go to lessons from 13.10.

Parents Are Expected To Ensure They Know The Plans

We will overcommunicate these plans via the website, app, text, email, social media and app alerts.

We must stress that students MUST arrive within the time window. Students arriving outside the time window will not be admitted, including siblings.

Students will be spending the day with their form tutor to do a series of Personal Development activities to ensure they are 'Ready' for the term ahead.

Parents and carers are expected to check our website carefully before Wednesday 5th January to confirm plans and make arrangements for their child(ren).



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COLLABORATION—Parent Symposium

Every term we look to take the views of parents and provide important Academy updates too.

This is called our Parent Symposium and is on our [Events calendar on the new Academy website](#).

On 9th December 2021, we welcomed parents to attend virtually and we outlined some of the changes and successes. You can watch a recording here: <https://coreeducationtrust.sharepoint.com/:v:/s/ParentSymposium/EUySPriCmlJMpnuw4CB9w2MBLzS54cw4Ne3gTn3VSleHPw?e=Byva36>

We also opened our termly survey.

Autumn Term Impact

- All students given a new blazer
- 600+ on roll – waiting lists in some year groups
- Hale Code adopted
- Hatch converted to outside eating space
- New website which makes it easier to find things
- 10k spent on books (classics/BAME authors prioritised) and Little Libraries installed
- Every child a member of Birmingham Libraries
- Guided reading in form time 3 times a week – every student reads for an hour now
- New custom-made exercise books – better presentation and quality
- Highest-attended Open Evening EVER
- Implemented a one way system to support even safer student movement around narrow corridors
- Year 7 swimming lessons at Ladywood Leisure Centre
- Students representing JQA as flag-bearers at the opening of the Commonwealth Games in Buckingham Palace
- New partnership with the British Academy of Jewellery
- Hosted Covid-19 vaccination programme for 12-16 year olds
- Implemented a FREE breakfast provision so every child can eat before school if they wish

COLLABORATION

JEWELLERY QUARTER ACADEMY

Participants in the meeting include: JM, DZ, IR, AA, PB, TW, and others.

[We encourage all parents/carers to complete the termly parent survey which will remain open until Friday 24th December 2021.](#)

Parents are reminded that if they have any specific issues, they should email their child's Head of Year in the first instance. All email addresses are on the back page of the newsletter.



COLLABORATION—First Class Foundations

It has been a pleasure to work in collaboration with First Class Foundations with their 'step together' outreach programme. In their distinctive purple jackets, the team have been a constant presence outside of the Academy this term. They support JQA by chaperoning students safely from the school to their bus stops; during this time they have developed excellent relationships with them and signpost them to projects and opportunities in their local area. We look forward to a lasting partnership!

Mr M Tully - Assistant Headteacher (Respect)



COLLABORATION—Continuing to Combat Covid 19

We hope you and your family are safe and well. With the emergence of the Omicron variant, 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.

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 must remain vigilant as a community during the Christmas holidays and beyond and continue to test at home, particularly prior to seeing elderly relatives. **All students have been issued with enough lateral flow tests.** We test each Wednesday and Sunday. Texts and app alerts act as reminders to students.

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-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 'Booster Jabs'

As a community, we strongly urge everyone to 'have the jab'. Many staff and students at JQA have recently had the 'booster'. There is so much data now suggesting unvaccinated people are more likely to be hospitalised by the virus. We strongly urge all the community to get 'jabbed'. [You can book an appointment here](#).

On-Site Testing

When students arrive on the first day back after the Christmas break on Wednesday 5th January, they will be tested on site before returning to face to face teaching. For the testing to go smoothly we will be having a staggered start with specific arrival times. **These times MUST be adhered to and students will only be admitted at their allocated year group's time.**

All parents/carers should check our website, socials and download the Piota app as we will confirm these plans.



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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%.

It was wonderful to reward so many students for 100% attendance this term.

We are also starting School Attendance Review Meetings with some families in Spring to bring legal procedures against families who child is persistently absent.



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

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



OPPORTUNITY— Echo Eternal

On the 16th of December, 4 students in Year 10 had the amazing opportunity to visit the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA) to take part in a performing arts workshop. Whilst there, they worked with some talented staff and sixth form students to create a performance around a spoken word speech that they themselves have written. It was great to see JQA and LIPA sixth form students getting on so well and collaborating so fantastically.

The final performance of their piece will be seen at the Town Hall in a special ceremony on the 26th of January to mark [Holocaust Memorial Day](#). More information on this exciting event will follow soon.



OPPORTUNITY— French Restaurant trip

Six of our Year 11 students, who are studying GCSE French, had the fantastic opportunity to have lunch at the [Cote Brasserie](#) restaurant at the Mailbox. It is a celebration and an encouragement for their daily effort, their commitment to learning and their improvements in their mock exams.

They had the chance to practise their speaking skills by ordering their food in French and tasted some food they had never had previously!

They all stated that it will without any doubt be a memorable time that they spent in the company of their friends and teachers, but also an opportunity that will encourage and motivate them to deepen their French learning and do even better.

The following day was also the Mock results day, where the students saw that their effort and hard work is paying off. We are proud of them and we wish them every success in their French studies. Tres bien!

Ms F Atoini—Head of MFL



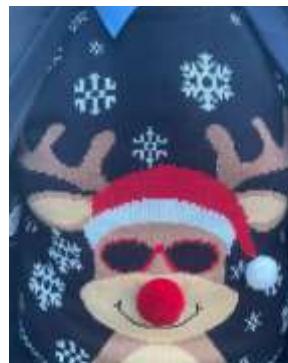
OPPORTUNITY— Christmas Festivities at JQA

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day is an annual fundraising campaign in the UK and Ireland organised by charity Save the Children in the UK. On a specific Friday in December, people are encouraged to *make the world better with a sweater* and raise funds for Save the Children by wearing a Christmas jumper and making a minimum donation of £1.

Those taking part can wear a Christmas jumper they already own, decorate an existing jumper with festive decorations, or even knit their own.

Christmas Jumper Day was celebrated on Friday 10th December, in which many of our students and staff wore their own Christmas jumpers or festive accessories.



Christmas Dinner

Students had the privilege of having a Christmas lunch, pulling crackers and telling jokes with each other on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th December. It was great to see all the students enjoying themselves.



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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—International Human Rights Day

International Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10th, as it commemorates the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Declaration of Human Rights Day sets out a broad range of human rights that all individuals, regardless of their race, nationality, sex, religion, or any other status, are entitled to. For example, everyone is entitled to rights such as the right to life and liberty, the right to work, the right to an education, as well as freedoms such as freedom from slavery, freedom of expression, and so on.

Educating our students about human rights is important because many of us take them for granted every single day. Having knowledge of these rights and these laws that protect us all will give students the skills they need to defend them or apply them in their own daily lives. It will also help them understand how they should be treated as well as how they should treat others. Educating students about human rights empowers them with learning outside of the classroom and onto the playgrounds, their homes, and even in their community. It can help create a healthier school culture that can lead to reduced bullying and other negative or unwanted behaviours.

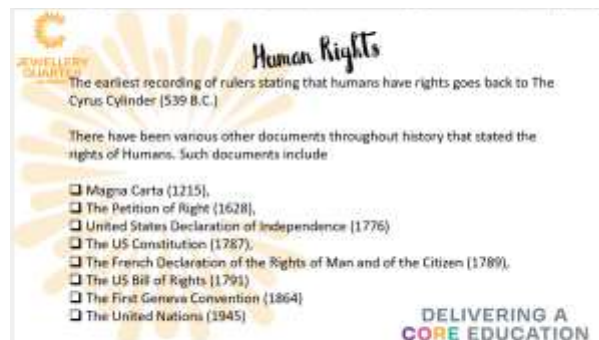
As part of our Personal Development session on Tuesday 7th December, our students were taught about human rights by their Form Tutor.



Personal Development

Do Now - Thinking Question:
What do you understand about the international day of human rights?

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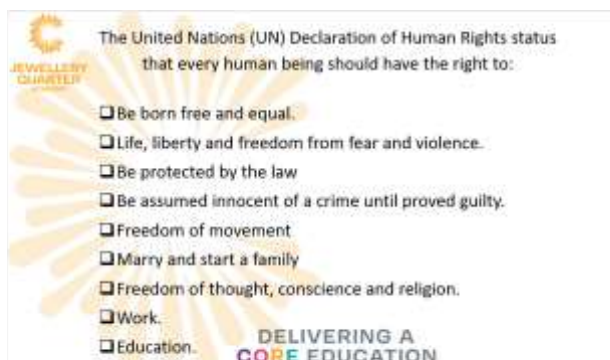
Human Rights

The earliest recording of rulers stating that humans have rights goes back to The Cyrus Cylinder (539 B.C.)

There have been various other documents throughout history that stated the rights of humans. Such documents include

- ❑ Magna Carta (1215),
- ❑ The Petition of Right (1628),
- ❑ United States Declaration of Independence (1776)
- ❑ The US Constitution (1787),
- ❑ The French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789),
- ❑ The US Bill of Rights (1791)
- ❑ The First Geneva Convention (1864)
- ❑ The United Nations (1945)

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Human Rights

The United Nations (UN) Declaration of Human Rights states that every human being should have the right to:

- ❑ Be born free and equal.
- ❑ Life, liberty and freedom from fear and violence.
- ❑ Be protected by the law
- ❑ Be assumed innocent of a crime until proved guilty.
- ❑ Freedom of movement
- ❑ Marry and start a family
- ❑ Freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
- ❑ Work.
- ❑ Education.

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Human Rights

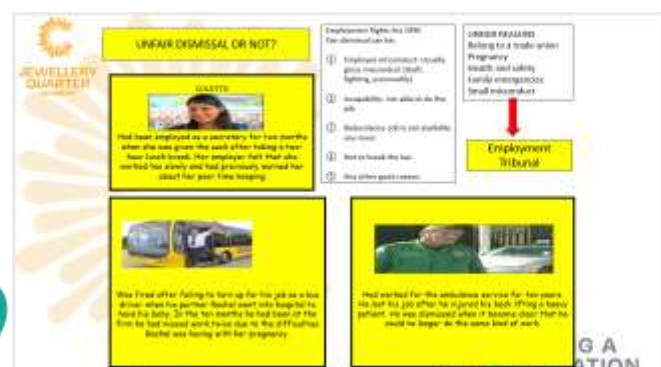
History of Employment Laws

- ❑ 1870 Equal Pay Act requires that pay rates are the same for identical or similar jobs.
- ❑ 1975 Sex Discrimination Act makes it illegal for people to be discriminated against on the grounds of their sex.
- ❑ 1976 Race Relations Act outlaws discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, nationality and ethnic origin.
- ❑ The National Minimum Wage Act 2000 gives everyone the right to a minimum amount to be paid depending on their age.
- ❑ 1995 Disability Discrimination Act makes it illegal for an employer to treat a disabled person less favourably.
- ❑ 2000 Equality Act: legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It sets out the different ways in which it is unlawful to treat someone. It replaces the Sex Discrimination Act, Race Relations Act and Disability Discrimination Act.

Question
Which law was the most significant and why?

Did you know?
A Trade Union is an organisation of workers formed to protect the rights and interests of its members concerning wages, benefits and working conditions.

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UNFAIR DISMISSAL OR NOT?

QUESTIONS

- 1. Employee dismissed without giving reasonable notice (length, appropriateness)
- 2. Inadequate, not related to the job
- 3. Redundancy policy not properly followed
- 4. Not to leave the job
- 5. Any other good reason

ANSWERS

- 1. Yes, it is unfair dismissal
- 2. No, it is not unfair dismissal
- 3. No, it is not unfair dismissal
- 4. No, it is not unfair dismissal
- 5. No, it is not unfair dismissal

EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL

UNFAIR DISMISSAL OR NOT?

QUESTIONS

- 1. Employee dismissed without giving reasonable notice (length, appropriateness)
- 2. Inadequate, not related to the job
- 3. Redundancy policy not properly followed
- 4. Not to leave the job
- 5. Any other good reason

ANSWERS

- 1. Yes, it is unfair dismissal
- 2. No, it is not unfair dismissal
- 3. No, it is not unfair dismissal
- 4. No, it is not unfair dismissal
- 5. No, it is not unfair dismissal

EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL

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RESPECT—Hollie Guard App

The Safeguarding Team would like to bring your attention to a new app recommended to us by our Local School Link Officer, PC Steve Mason. The app is designed to keep your children safe when they are not at home.

The Hollie Guard app turns any smartphone into a personal safety device. The free to download app uses GPS tracking to pinpoint its user's location and can alert emergency contacts and record evidence if they feel threatened or at risk of attack.

The app can be downloaded from your phone's app provider and is compatible with iPhone, Android and Windows phone.

We wish you all a very Merry and safe Christmas however we take this opportunity to remind you that if you have any concerns over your child over the holidays, please email our safeguarding team for advice and support

safeguarding@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Ms K Hinz - Assistant Headteacher (Collaboration)



EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Golden Table

We were thrilled to send the top merit earners in each year group for lunch at a gourmet restaurant in the Jewellery Quarter. Students were joined by staff members, not least our fantastic technician Elaine O'Carroll. Thank you to our friends at [Ana Rocha](#) for hosting us.

It was wonderful to hear how proud the parents were of their children and the fantastic relationships that blossomed at the meal.

Well done to these excellent students!



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Cooking at JQA

Over the last couple of months, students from all year groups have had the opportunity to show off their culinary skills in their cooking lessons.

The students have made anything from a pizza to chocolate cake. They have really enjoyed cooking and are hoping to do more over the academic year. Their Food Technology teacher, Ms Glasgow, stated that the students have been excellent and worked really hard on these dishes.

As you can see, they all look delicious!



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Rewards Assemblies

Our end of term Reward and Recognition assemblies are to celebrate the incredible achievements of our students who follow our CORE values everyday in class and around school. It was wonderful to see the students getting certificates and prizes from their subject teachers.

A number of students were then invited to a “Celeb” assembly. It was to recognise these students, of who have met our values every single day of the term, since 5th September 2021.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Mock Results Day

Year 11 students sat their mock exams over a 2 week period and received their results in the afternoon of Wednesday 15th December.

Many of the students were nervous when collecting their results, but after we had smiles as they were happy with the results so far.

After speaking to one of the students, they said “I am happy with what I got in my mocks, but I want to improve on them, so I can get onto the course I want to study at college.”

We look forward to our Year 11 students showing this dedication to excellence in 2022 as they achieve their dreams and make their families proud.



EXCELLENCE —Hot Choc Friday

Four students who were the highest merit earners for the last 2 weeks had the opportunity to have 'Hot Choc Friday' with Mr Barton on 10th December. The students also dressed up in Christmas accessories to promote Christmas Jumper Day.

The next 'Hot Choc Friday' will be held on Friday 14th January and all students are encouraged to log their merits between now and then to stand a chance of qualifying.



MyStickers®

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EXCELLENCE — Remote Learning Contingencies

We are always 'Ready' at JQA and on the last week of term, we gave all students a reminder of their login details for www.office.com so they can access their JQA email account and Teams groups.

The Omicron variant is a concern so we must make sure we have contingencies in place so our students can continue to learn if it is necessary for groups or cohorts to remain at home.

Remote Learning Policy and Teams Guides

We have a clear [Remote Learning Policy](#) and a [guide for how to access our 'live lesson' provision for parents and students](#) on a dedicated page of our website.

The Piota app also contains this information in the 'Parent Info' section.

There are some useful video guides for parents and students featured:

Guide to Teams for students and parents: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SemjM2fHV2Q>

Guide to completing Assignments: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGuv9wHCWYE&t=3s>

Guide to accessing Teams on a mobile phone: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmNXoOhwuhk>

Guide to submitting Assignments on your phone: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDStbwxO1XQ>

Parents and carers are reminded to connect more so than ever with the Academy by checking our website, following the Academy on social media and downloading the Piota app to receive alerts.

A decorative graphic at the bottom left of the page, consisting of several colorful teardrop shapes in shades of orange, yellow, purple, pink, and teal, arranged in a fan-like pattern.

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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 Miss R Murray (YGC): rmurray@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



Miss Murray



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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