

Friday 22nd March 2024

Dear Families,

As you know we at Jewellery Quarter are keen to equip your child for every area of adult life, this involves introducing and teaching them subjects which they may wish to pursue in adult life along with various experiences which expand their understanding of the wider world. Some of these undoubtedly, they will use and help them navigate various issues they will face.

We are constantly working to make sure the approach and material is relevant and whenever possible show how this links to their lives not only now but in the future. One of these is the role and expectations society places upon individuals to enable them to get along and exist within the structures of the society in which they place themselves.

As we know from the various philosophies and approaches around the world, each country adopts the one they think best suits them and the UK has its own. So how do we help your children understand how they fit in to whichever approach they may find themselves? Well one of the ways is to introduce to them some of the very same rules and expectations placed upon us as adults which they will have to also comply with when they are adults.

The issue we sometimes have as a school, as I am sure you may be familiar with as a parent or carer, is when working with and teaching teenagers part of their growing up through adolescence means for some, they struggle more with the concept of rules than others. Anything which they consider to be restricting their capacity of being individual and independent often causes them to fight against it or rebel.

We want to assure you we will also endeavour to explain that any rules we use are also ones which they will come across in their everyday life, such as specific arrival times, noise levels, how to behave in crowded areas and even, what you can and cannot wear for specific roles and jobs along with, where you can sit or not sit.

Over the next term we will be re introducing once again clear expectations to everyone, not only what those expectations are, but also why we do them and how they have the very same corresponding rules within adult life.

The downside of all these in knowing we are, as mentioned dealing with adolescent, some of them may find it harder to restrict and manage their emotional responses and again just like in society we will be introducing consequences.

We would much rather they learn the lessons of what society expects with us, so as to avoid having to learn the lesson in later life, when society brings about consequences for wrong actions and hands out far stiffer consequences.

The ones we will be imposing will be the certainty of sanction and re-establishing our 'Red Line' behaviours and supporting our students to not cross the 'red lines' at Jewellery Quarter Academy. Please be assured we will be doing everything possible to help your child make the best choices but if they still refuse then we must, just like society would, take action.

Please explain to your child the importance of them taking on board what we are trying to do along with any explanation you can provide to help them understand the wider aim and more importantly please work with us if your child struggles in this area and know we will be doing our best to help but have to have something in reserve if the explanation and encouragement hasn't worked. Ultimately, our behaviour for learning system focuses on students being Ready, Respectful and Safe, to ensure their ability to learn is optimised.

I would like to take this opportunity to reassert the expectations for PE kit. Your child must attend school wearing correct PE kit on the day they have their PE lesson. JQA PE kit consists of navy and light blue-collar t-shirt with school logo, navy blue shorts or tracksuit bottoms, navy blue PE socks and trainers. Students must wear their school blazer every day- including the day they have PE.

Return to school on **Tuesday 9th April**, will be a staggered start to enable us to thoroughly embed routines, structures and learning behaviours. Your child/children will arrive at the following times:

Year 7 – 10:30am

Year 8 – 10:00am

Year 9 – 10:30am

Year 10 – 9:30am

Year 11 – 9:00am

From Wednesday 10th April, we will be opening the doors to the Academy at 8:15am. Please remember that your child can arrive to school any time between 8:15am and 8:35am and will be considered on time. At 8:36am, your child will be late, and a sanction will be applied. You will be able to monitor this on Class Charts. If you need a reminder of your login details, please contact us and we will be happy to provide this.

We thank you for your continued support this half term and wish you and your family a restful Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rebecca Bakewell
Interim Headteacher