

Friday 20th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to write to you all about the first three weeks of the academic year at Jewellery Quarter Academy. I am so pleased with the way that many of our students have settled in at the start of the year. They are really showing the high expectations that we have as a school, and this is really positive.

The building work continues at a pace around the school, we have now completed the refurbishment of 6 different classrooms and corridor areas. The redesign and refurbishment of our new hall and library area are also progressing nicely. The physical enhancements we are enjoying in our school building are just the start of what I hope will be a journey of development here, and a school experience built around engaging and stimulating learning, enriching opportunities and a positive, respectful environment - ensuring JQA can continue to be a valued school of choice for students and future staff.

Attendance and more specifically punctuality are an area of significant importance for us as a school, we expect all our students to have at least 96% attendance across the academic year. Research shows that even ½ a day absence from school can have an impact on a student's overall outcomes academically. We also expect our students to be at school before 8.30am. Our school gates open at 8.15am and the school day begins at 8.35am. Key messages and personal development takes place first thing in the morning and students are missing out on these opportunities and crucial learning. We will be communicating with parents/carers more about attendance and punctuality during this year.

During the last week we did have a day where the fire alarm was activated during the day resulting in a full school evacuation. All students and staff responded in an appropriate manner during this time. We have discussed that we will support students with time in lessons to catch up on any missed learning during the evacuation.

This week we held our Year 11 Information Evening, this was an opportunity for our students to meet with local college, sixth form and apprenticeship providers as well as to understand key dates and what support is available for year 11 students. A copy of the presentation will be shared via our Year 11 TEAMS page. If you require any further information, please contact Mr. Sprintall (Head of Year 11).

On Wednesday 2nd October we will invite our Year 7 parents/carers to school to meet with form tutors to hear about your children having settled into the school and further details will be provided by the letter sent home.

We are really looking forward to our Year 6 Open Evening which will be taking place on the 9th October. This will be a chance for all perspective parents/carers and their children to visit our school to hear about our exciting future and to see subjects in action.

I look forward to meeting more parents/carers in the coming weeks.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr J. Henshaw

Headteacher