

14th December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly, thank you for your truly wonderful support throughout this rather challenging time. Since the start of the academic year, we have been providing a full educational experience to your son / daughter, ensuring that they continue to develop, both academically and personally. Despite a short pause in extra-curricular activities more recently, most after school clubs and other enriching activities have persisted. The sum effect of this is that we have sustained students' good progress – for this, we are proud.

I also wanted to show gratitude for keeping us informed about your own situations, notably any changes in your child(ren). In doing this, you have helped protect other students and staff members at JQA. Please keep this high level of communication going; we are very thankful for this effort. We are available to answer any questions by telephone or email throughout the week and aim to answer any straightforward queries within a 24-hour period.

Over the last few days, the number of positive coronavirus cases has risen at the Academy, despite our extensive safety measures. Each week, we review what more we can do to protect students and benchmark this against the number of other factors, including staff and student absence, in order that we can provide the best possible standards of education to all, as well as keep everyone well.

It is with regret that I inform you of our decision to request students in Year 8 remain at home for the rest of this week (starting Tuesday 15th December 2020).

We will be providing a full suite of remote learning opportunities so that no student misses out on making further progress. Please see the timetable below for the Year 8 curriculum offer.

	Virtual Tutor Time 8.30-9.00	1 L4L 9.00-10.00	2 L4L 10.20 - 11.20	3 L4L 11.20- 12.20	4 L4L 12.20 – 13.20	5 Co-Curricular 14.00- 15.00
TUES 15th	KRJ	PD - KRJ	KRJ	KRJ	AST	French - MGO
WEDS 16th	KRJ	KRJ	KRJ	AST	AST	Science - AST
THURS 17th	KRJ	KRJ	KRJ	AST	AST	Art - FCL
FRI 18th	Assembly – JBN (KRJ to broadcast)	KRJ	KRJ	KRJ		

Children of key workers and others who are required to be in will still be invited to attend on-site provision. Please let us know if your circumstances have changed and this now includes you so we can plan to support your family.

All remote learning is delivered via Microsoft Teams. Your child has been added to the 'Year 8' group and it can be accessed at:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a227d3a81bcfd4063ad8beed42d8fba96%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=b0f1183a-be1d-4bc2-9a1c-7ac090c54f1a&tenantId=1e019607-e85e-4a24-b329-4ea635853d58>

Your son / daughter will already be familiar with how this works and should log in every day from 0830-1500, or 0830-1220 on Friday 18th December – taking the necessary breaks, as per the timetable. We would ask that you check in on your child at regular intervals, to ensure that they are working their best.

If you have problems with any aspect of the remote learning offer, please would you contact JQA's Reception on 0121 729 7220, or for hardware challenges, please get in touch with our highly skilled IT Technician: Mr. A. Shabir (ashabir@jewelleryquarter.academy) who will be delighted to help you.

We look forward to welcoming back all students on Tuesday 5th January 2021 for 0830.

We wish you a peaceful, healthy Christmas break and, of course, a truly Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely.

Mr. G Williams.

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Mr G. Williams
Headteacher