

## End of term, March 2023

31<sup>st</sup> March 2023



Dear Parent/ Carer,

The Spring Term has been an excellent and successful one at the Quest Academy. I write with a brief summary of the things which have been going on, the work students have been undertaking, and also with key information ahead of the beginning of the Summer Term.

As always, the term has been incredibly busy. There have been a significant number of parents evenings- both virtual and in person; including traditional teacher meetings but also special evenings such as the Options Fair & Appointments. As always, we are thankful for the support of parents and carers in helping students make the most of their educational opportunities- this really does have a significant impact on the success of students.

There has been a wide range of extra opportunities on offer for students, and again I have been pleased to see these taken up by so many students. From the school production in the first half term, to residential trips over the half term break and also again during the coming break, students have made the most of the opportunities available to them. Academy day yesterday was a great success and a vital part of the curriculum our students enjoy, with excellent learning opportunities on each trip.

Of course, the most impressive and important part of what goes on is the learning in school, in every lesson, every school day and I am pleased that the attendance of students continues to improve towards pre-pandemic levels. It is clear that students must strive to be in school every day they possibly can. Every day of lost learning has a real and tangible effect on how students progress, and ultimately, the opportunities available to them going forwards beyond school.


Students continue to develop the LEARN attributes we speak about so often and I encourage you to discuss them at home to get an understanding of what we are talking about in school. I strongly believe that developing and enhancing these attributes will help students finish school in the best possible position for future success throughout their lives. I include them at the end of this letter for your reference.




### Information

Please be aware of the following key information concerning the start of the new term:

- The academy reopens on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April for a normal school day. Students should arrive by 8.15am as usual.

Principal: Mr A. Crofts BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, NPQEL

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- For the new term, we will conduct our normal uniform checks (students must have a tie, lanyard, blazer, school trousers etc. and are permitted 1 pair of simple ear studs only). Full details of our uniform can be found [here](#). I ask you to make a special effort to ensure all uniform is ready in advance of the new term.
- As you will be aware, we operate a strict policy on mobile phones which we strongly believe is essential to maintain a safe, focussed learning environment in school for all. Your support as parents and carers, in achieving this is both essential and greatly appreciated. Our mobile phone expectations are clearly set out in our [behaviour policy](#) (page 10) and in the [student handbook](#) (page 23). Essentially, they are not to be seen or heard for any reason at any time on the academy site. This extends after the last lesson, until students have left the glass gates. If, in an emergency, students need to contact home (or you need to contact them) this will always be possible via reception. If phones are seen or heard, they will be confiscated for a week on the first occasion (longer for subsequent confiscations) and cannot be collected early. Students know this rule; if their phone is confiscated they must accept it and learn from it. If a student fails to hand their phone in, they will work in the supervision room until they do. If they fail to hand it in by the end of the school day, they will return to the supervision room on subsequent days until it is handed in and will also be issued with a Saturday detention. Your support in enforcing this is appreciated, and it is a principle we strongly believe in.
- There are bank holidays on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May and Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May (for the King's coronation)
- The last day of the half term is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May
- Public exams (Year 11 & 13) begin on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May

Finally, I would like to wish you all a great break.

Your sincerely



Mr T. Beecham  
Head of School



The Quest Academy believes that *Learning Changes Lives*. For this to happen, we all need to develop attributes and values which enable us to LEARN. This summary is to help remind us of these.

<p><b>L LEARNER</b></p> <p>To be a great learner you need to be curious to find out more.</p>	<p><b>YOU NEED TO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Be curious;</li> <li>› Be independent;</li> <li>› Be a reader;</li> <li>› Be organised;</li> <li>› Have self-discipline;</li> <li>› Be proud of your learning and take ownership of it;</li> <li>› Ask for help when you need it;</li> <li>› Understand your own learning.</li> </ul>
<p><b>E EMPOWERED</b></p> <p>To be empowered you need to have healthy self respect and respect for others.</p>	<p><b>YOU SHOULD:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Have great attendance (97.5% or more);</li> <li>› Always be punctual (to lessons and school);</li> <li>› Dress smart to feel smart;</li> <li>› Do the right thing;</li> <li>› Have confidence in yourself;</li> <li>› Help yourself, and those around you, to succeed;</li> <li>› Follow the classroom rules.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A ASPIRATIONAL</b></p> <p>To be aspirational you need to aim to be the best you can possibly be.</p>	<p><b>YOU SHOULD:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Believe in yourself;</li> <li>› Make decisions which help you realise your potential;</li> <li>› Not limit yourself;</li> <li>› Explore your options and possibilities (find out about the world and jobs etc beyond your current experiences).</li> </ul>
<p><b>R RESILIENT</b></p> <p>To be resilient you need to always try your hardest.</p>	<p><b>THIS MEANS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Always giving everything;</li> <li>› Understanding that effort will always be rewarded;</li> <li>› Growing from your mistakes.</li> <li>› Never giving up;</li> <li>› Viewing failure as an important part of learning;</li> <li>› Understanding that you can always improve yourself;</li> </ul>
<p><b>N NICE</b></p> <p>Being 'nice' is about showing great social responsibility.</p>	<p><b>THIS MEANS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Celebrating diversity, in all its forms;</li> <li>› Treating others as you want to be treated;</li> <li>› Looking after your environment.</li> <li>› Being self-aware of your actions and responsibilities;</li> <li>› Being proud of your community and Quest Academy;</li> </ul>