

## End of term, December 2023

13<sup>th</sup> December 2023



Dear Parent/ Carer,

As the end of term approaches, I write to both reflect on the achievements of our students over the course of the term, and to provide details and important information for your calendar over the coming weeks. This particularly relates to the last week of term, and the start of the new term.

As always, the term has been incredibly busy. It seems a long time ago now, but this has included the Open Evenings, both for the main school and Quest 6, and our hugely successful Academy at Work tours. I am very grateful indeed to students for their help at these events. It is the conduct and enthusiasm of students and staff at events such as this which continue to promote, enhance and share the fantastic work which takes place every day at The Quest Academy.

This term we have held the Year 7 Settling in Evening, Curriculum Evenings for both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, and also parents' evenings. We have been pleased with the engagement at these events and are very grateful indeed to those of you who attended; we hope you found them useful.

Particular highlights for students will have been the successes of our sports teams, trips such as to the Old Vic Theatre, and University and Careers trips. But also, events in school such as workshops, show rehearsals, talks and events such as the rewards afternoon today. I have been incredibly impressed by the work-rate and dedication of our students. They have worked hard in lessons, progressed their learning and had experiences which will live long in the memory. Many of the projects we have seen have been truly exceptional, and the level of thought in lessons has been excellent.

Year 7 have made a fantastic start to their time at Quest. They have particularly impressed their teachers with their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. Years 8 and 9 have also continued their learning very impressively while Year 10 and 12 have made a great start to their examination courses. Years 11 and 13 have now completed mocks and Year 11 received their results during our "mock results day event" so they now know exactly where their efforts need to be focused. This work will be crucial in ensuring their success next summer.

**Head of School:** Mr T. Beecham, BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA

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

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Our motto, "Learning Changes Lives", is integral to all that we do. We treasure every minute of learning time, and I am grateful to you for ensuring students are in school and learning all the time. You will be familiar with our LEARN attributes and know that we talk about these regularly. Students who consistently and confidently display these will be successful and will ultimately have greater control over what they are able to do with the rest of their lives.

**Attendance to school is the single most important factor in this; something that has been shown in a wide range of studies.** Please do everything you can to ensure your child attends school on time, every single day. We really appreciate your support in this area.

Please remember students are not permitted to use mobile phones on the school site. These must be switched off and out of sight by the time students come onto the premises. They are not allowed to be taken out again until students have left the site completely. If students need to contact you (or you need to contact them) during the school day this must be done through the office or another member of staff. If a phone is heard or seen on site it will be confiscated for 1 week on the first occasion. This rule really does have a positive impact on student engagement and learning in school, and we do appreciate your support in maintaining our high standards.

### Key Information

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

- The last day of term will be Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. On this day Period 6 will be replaced by a registration period and students will be dismissed from school between 1.50pm and 2pm.
- The academy reopens on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January- **with a later start time of 9.10am.** Please note- the glass gate will open at 9am with line up at 9.10am. Students arriving after 9.10am will be marked as late, and the first lesson will be period 2 at 9.30am.
- For the new term, we will conduct our normal uniform checks (students must have a tie, lanyard, blazer etc. and are permitted 1 pair of simple ear studs only). Full details of our uniform can be found [here](#).

Finally, I would like to wish you all a great break, and an excellent New Year.

Your Sincerely



Mr T. Beecham  
Head of School