

Our ref: MAL
23rd July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

As we draw the academic year to an end I want to first thank, on behalf of staff and governors, all students, parents and carers for their hard-work and support. We wish you all a restful break, and we look forward to sharing the examination results of our Year 11 and Sixth Form in September.

Every year staff move on to develop their careers and we thank them for their work at Q3 Academy Great Barr. We are also delighted to announce new appointments, Mr Brocklebank and Mr Gurung who join as Assistant Vice Principals, and an internal promotions for Mr Slack who will become Vice Principal, and Mrs Ward who becomes the new PLD for Arts Company.

Students will be able to collect A-Level results on 16th August 2018 from 8.30a.m. and GCSE results are available on 23rd August 2018 from 9a.m. Staff will be on hand to advise your child regarding A-level options in our Sixth Form, and to advise on other choices such as college and apprenticeships.

This week we are delighted to welcome our new intake of students (Year 7 and Sixth Form) to Transition Week. A wide range of activities will be offered, and the staff have worked extremely hard to ensure a memorable and worthwhile experience. During this time, and for the first few days of the new term, our new students will be able to pay for their meals with cash until they have been issued with their ID Cards, all other students must continue to pay using their ID Card.

During the summer holidays students have more free time and this can present more risks. The recent spell of good weather has tempted some people to swim in open water and sadly young people lose their lives every year by misjudging the effect of cold water. Another risk is social media. Many young people are sophisticated in the way they use social media apps and websites, tailoring their communication for different audiences, and accessing them from a range of devices including smartphones, tablets and games consoles. However, social media, like all forms of public communication, comes with some risks. Not all of these risks turn into actual problems; and if children never face any risks, they never learn how to deal with them. By helping your child understand what the risks are, you can play a big part in preventing them from turning into problems. A practical guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media is available on our website as is advice from Sandwell Local Authority on the dangers of open water swimming.

Towards the end of the summer break I know many of you will be buying new Business Dress, and from 6th August 2018 this can be purchased from Uniforms Plus (Great Barr) or A Oakes (Oldbury). I particularly want to remind you that shoes should be black, preferably leather, and polishable. Trainers, 'work- trainers', boots, suede shoes, and Dr Marten style shoes are not allowed. If you need any further clarification you will find our Business Dress policy is on our website, where you will also find clear guidance on acceptable jewellery and hair styles. If your child is incorrectly dressed, they will usually be kept in isolation until they are wearing the correct Academy Business Dress.

We will welcome students back to the Academy on Tuesday 4th September 2018 at 8.55a.m. I'd like to remind you about the importance of ensuring your child's punctual attendance in the mornings. All students are expected to be at their lockers by 8.55a.m.; any arrivals beyond this time will be marked as 'late' in the register.

I do need to share with you some important changes to the number 42 bus service. As many of you will be aware Diamond Buses have proposed a 'closed service' where they will only accept bus passes bought from Diamond Buses that students cannot use on other Centro services. Understandably, at a proposed cost of £85 a month few families are willing to pay this amount, and as a result the bus service will not be running in September.

Chief Executive: Dr Caroline J S Badyal, EdD, MA BE.d, DipEd, NPQH | Head of School: Mr Mark Arnall BA Hons, MA, NPQH

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When we return in September our reception desk will close at 4.30p.m. on a Friday. Staff may not be available to see you at short notice, so to avoid disappointment or frustration, if you would like to see a member of staff then please book an appointment prior to attending the Academy.

We are holding a 'Lost Property Reclaim Morning' on Tuesday 14th August 2018 from 10a.m. until 2p.m. Any items remaining after this date will be recycled or donated to charity.

To keep you well informed, we regularly add to the information available on our website. Please take the opportunity to visit at www.q3academy.org.uk. We also have regular updates on Twitter (@q3academy) and on our Facebook page (Q3 Academy Great Barr). Do continue to use our online platforms to provide us with any feedback you may have – your views are very important to us

A list of key dates for the new Autumn Term 2018 is provided below:

- Open Mornings – 24th September 2018 – 28th September 2018 – 9.15a.m. – 11a.m.;
- Open Day – Saturday 29th September 2018 – 9a.m. – 12p.m.;
- Elevate Parents' Seminar for Year 10 and 11 Parents – 12th September 2018 – 5.30p.m. - 6.30p.m.;
- PACT Quiz Night – 12th October 2018;
- Parents' Consultation Evening (Years 7 and 12) – 18th October 2018 – 3.30p.m. – 7.30p.m.;
- Sixth Form Open Evening – 8th November 2018 6.15p.m. – 8p.m.;
- Parents' Consultation Evening (Years 11 and 13) – 3.30p.m. – 7.30p.m.

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 3rd September 2018 – Friday 14th December 2018

InSET Days: Monday 3rd September, Thursday 25th October, and Friday 26th October

Half Term: Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November 2018

Christmas Holidays: Monday 17th December 2018 – Monday 7th January 2019

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 12th April 2019

InSET Days: Monday 7th January 2019 and Friday 12th April 2019

Half Term: Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February 2019

Easter Holidays: Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April 2019

Summer Term 2019

Monday 29th April – Friday 26th July 2019

InSET Day: Monday 1st July 2019

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May 2019

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

Please be aware that on occasion, dates may need to alter slightly, and we will endeavour to communicate this in good time should this happen.

I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break, and remind you that the Academy finishes at the earlier time of 2.05p.m. on Friday 27th July 2018.

Yours sincerely



M Arnull
Head of School

Chief Executive: Dr Caroline J S Badyal, EdD, MA BE.d, DipEd, NPQH | Head of School: Mr Mark Arnull BA Hons, MA, NPQH

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