

Our ref: CBE/CBL  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

### Proposed Changes to Business Dress and Term Dates

Each year Q3 Academies Trust reviews its policies and procedures to ensure that we have the best provision in place for our students and staff. We are asking for your views on two key areas: student Business Dress and term dates.

#### 1. Student Business Dress

We are concerned about the rising cost of our current Business Dress and have received a large number of complaints from our parents/carers about this issue. There have also been delays in the arrival of stock, resulting in some families not being able to source new Business Dress items.

##### **Proposal**

*Change to plain navy items. These would be available from a list of suppliers provided by Q3 Academies at a lower price than the current pin stripe Business Dress. This change would apply to the new Year 7 intake in September 2020. All students in other year groups who need to replace items from September 2020 onwards will also be able to purchase the plain navy items. There will be no change to the other Business Dress.*

#### 2. Term Dates

As you are aware Q3 Academies Trust's term dates for the Autumn and Summer terms are different to other local schools and academies. Currently, there is a three-week Christmas break and a five-week Summer break. We have noticed that this is impacting on students' attendance, particularly when they have siblings in the primary school phase. In addition, the three-week break at Christmas is impacting on Year 11 and Year 13 study programmes.

##### **Proposal**

*Move to a two-week Christmas break and a six-week Summer break. This would, in the main, be consistent with Sandwell Local Authority and other neighbouring authorities' term dates.*

The consultation period will end on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Please access the consultation questionnaire on the website for the Q3 Academy that your child attends. Q3 Academies Trust Board will meet in October to discuss the findings from the consultation. The decision will then be communicated to you before the October half-term break.

If agreed, the proposed changes to Business Dress and term dates would take effect from the beginning of the academic year 2020 to 2021.

Thank you in advance for your support with this consultation.

Yours sincerely



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Q3 Academies Trust

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Q3 - Quaerere | 'Seek that which is good, that which is right, that which is true'