



Langley Walk, Birmingham, B15 2EF

0121 729 7100 • enquiries@corecity.academy

Headteachers: Karen Slater & David Bailey

 @CORECityAcademy  @COREcity_acad

16th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wrote to you last month about the planned move of Year 9 students to the Langley Walk site. The move was intended to help cement a one-City culture, after merging City and Central academies at the start of the year.

Having listened to feedback from parents and students, it has become apparent that the move was causing undue anxiety for some families and, as a result, we have decided to leave the arrangements as they are.

Many students said they felt settled at Newhall – familiar with the established systems and processes, which were supporting their wellbeing. Meanwhile, some parents expressed concern that the upheaval of adjusting to a new building and timetable could have an impact on their child's progress. There were particular concerns about the effect the move could have on vulnerable students, such as Looked After Children or those with special educational needs.

We have considered this feedback very carefully, particularly in light of the ongoing impact of the pandemic, which presents its own risks for students' wellbeing and has brought disruption to many who have had to isolate. Our overriding priority is to support students and to create the best possible learning environment for them, despite the challenges of COVID-19. On balance therefore, we believe it is in the students' best interests to remain at the Newhall site for the remainder of the academic year.

For these reasons, we will also postpone our plans to move Year 10 students this year.

We remain committed to our vision for the new City Academy – to develop an outstanding school that will inspire, enable and enrich the lives of every one of our students.

Timings of the school day

In light of these decisions, I would like to take the opportunity to confirm the timings of the school day for all year groups are as follows:

- Years 7 and 8: 8:30am to 3:00pm at Langley Walk
- Years 9 and 10: 9:00am to 3:30pm at Newhall
- Year 11: 8:30am to 4:00pm at Newhall

Mini-bus shuttle service

A reminder that, regrettably, the mini bus service will end this term. Instead, you may book your child into the supervised walking group walk operating between the two sites at the start and end of the day.



**CITY
ACADEMY**

Langley Walk, Birmingham, B15 2EF

0121 729 7100 • enquiries@corecity.academy

Headteachers: Karen Slater & David Bailey

🐦 @CORECityAcademy @COREeducate 📷 @COREcity_acad

School leadership

As you are aware, Miss Slater is leaving at the end of this term. Having carefully considered the impact this may have on the students and leadership of the school, I am delighted to announce the appointment of two new Heads of School:

- Mrs R. Shell-Macleod, who will be known to you as the current Deputy Headteacher at City Academy. Mrs Shell-Macleod has many years of leading in secondary schools and knows our students and processes well. She will be the Head of School based at our Newhall site.
- Mrs R. Bakewell, an experienced leader who is moving from our sister school Rockwood Academy (which was recently graded Good in an Ofsted inspection). Mrs Bakewell will bring fresh yet tried and tested ideas to City Academy, to move us forward in our journey. She will be based at our Langley Walk site.

Both take up their posts on 4th January, adding significant capacity to City Academy and our focus on delivering a high quality education for all of our students. On behalf of the whole team, I look forward to welcoming them and to the valuable contributions I am confident they will make. I would also like to place on record our thanks to Miss Slater for her tremendous leadership during her time with us.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you and your families a happy, healthy Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Bailey
Headteacher