



Ladywood, Birmingham, B15 2EF

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Headteacher: Rebecca Bakewell

 @CORECityAcademy @COREeducate

Ref: End of Summer Term

Wednesday 19th July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

As we end this school year, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to celebrate the successes we have seen this academic year in terms of your child and the school.

On Friday 21st July, school will finish at 12.25pm. There will be a phased release of students, beginning at 12.15pm and we will be encouraging students to return home directly at the end of the school day.

This year at City Academy has seen us successfully embed our Opportunities offer. It has been fantastic to see our students engage in such a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. Next year we hope to grow the offer even further. Another focus of the year to come will be building our presence in the local community through the further development of our student leadership programme. Please speak with your child about our opportunities for student leadership in the new school year and encourage them to apply.

Our biggest success this year, is the development of our students' attitudes to school and their growth in terms of self-regulation. There is more work to do, however, I am still immensely proud to read the first paragraph of our Ofsted report:

"City Academy is a vibrant and welcoming school. Pupils thrive in the warm, friendly and respectful culture. They are highly ambitious for themselves and want to learn. They have very positive attitudes and wear their uniform with pride. They are polite to adults and keen to talk about their school." (Ofsted, March 2023)

Long may this continue, and I look forward to the further improvements we will see next year.

Building work continues at Langley Walk. The results so far have really transformed the school into a school that is fit for the highly ambitious students we have. Most work will be complete as we move into the new school year. Students will continue to enter through the entrance on Cregoe Street, although main reception will return to Langley Walk from September.

Studies have shown the importance of retrieval practice and revision as excellent ways to store learning in a person's long-term memory, a skill crucial for future success. To aid students with this we have purchased a subscription to GCSE Pod for all students in Year 11 and Year 10 to support them. GCSE Pod is an online library of content and information in the subjects that your child studies. It will be used by teachers to set tasks and homework for students but should also be used by students as an independent revision tool. We have given each student in Year 10 a tutorial of how to use GCSE Pod and get the most from it, ready for Year 11. If your child was absent or late on the day of this, they can go to the website and click "get started" in the login section to activate their account. There is more information for parents about how to use GCSE Pod here - <https://www.gcsepod.com/parent-resources/> In the new term we will introduce Year 9 (who will then be Year 10) to this platform and ensure they know how to use it. If your child is in years 7, 8 or 9, we encourage them to keep reviewing their learning over the break to ensure they retain all learning into the new year. They will continue to have access to platforms such as, Educake, Maths Watch and Reading Plus.

This term has seen our year 11 students successfully complete their GCSE exams, with us saying goodbye, for now, on Friday 23rd June. We look forward to seeing them on Thursday 24th August for results day.

Students in year 11 and their parents/carers are welcome to come into school, to the school site at Langley Walk, to collect their GCSE results on Thursday 24th August between 9.00am – 12.00pm, entering through the entrance on Cregoe Street. Staff, senior leaders and post 16 providers will be on hand to give students any advice and support they need as they take their next steps. If you are unable to come into school, please contact us, so we can make arrangements to get your results to you.

We know that the summer can be a challenge to some families. We have been working with two organisations that are offering some activities throughout the holiday:

1. F2D have opportunities throughout the summer for your child to attend organised activities. We will share the flyer they have shared with us.
2. Victory Youth Group (VYG) have been in recently to introduce themselves to students. Their information can be found by scanning the QR codes below:



The safety and welfare of the school community at City Academy is paramount and we are committed to protecting all students from harm. All staff are trained in Child Protection procedures, and we have a number of Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL's). As parents, carers, and members of the school community it is important that you are aware of hot topics and issues that are encountered every day by children and young people in Birmingham.

You will have received a summer letter from the West Midlands Police which contains important information about how to keep children, young people and families safe over the 6-week holiday period. In addition to this I would like to signpost local and national services that you will be able to access for support.

Mental Health:

Forward Thinking Birmingham- [Pause hubs](#) | [Forward Thinking Birmingham](#)

Kooth- [Home - Kooth](#)

Food Banks:

The Trussell Trust- [Find a Food Bank - The Trussell Trust](#)

General Support and Resources:

Childline- [Childline](#) | [Childline](#)

NSPCC- [NSPCC](#) | [The UK children's charity](#) | [NSPCC](#)



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We will begin the new school year on Tuesday 5th September 2023. Arrival times will be as below:

- Year 7 – 8.45am
- Year 8 – 10.15am
- Year 9 – 10.15am
- Year 10 – 9.45am
- Year 11 – 9.15am

All that remains is to wish you and your family an enjoyable summer break; my team and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rebecca Bakewell
Headteacher