

Friday 9 January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of City Academy,

Welcome to the first Executive Headteacher bulletin of 2026. Thank you for your understanding of the requirement to close City Academy on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January due to the adverse weather. We will be open as normal on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Students return to school – after the holiday period**

I am delighted by the start that the students have made - they returned to school looking smart and showed a mature attitude during 'Our City Way' when our standards and expectations were reinforced. I hope that these standards are maintained throughout the Spring Term.

During the cold weather it is essential that students wear a warm coat to school. If any parent needs assistance with the purchase of a coat, please email your child's Year Coordinator as we may be able to support.

### **Attendance – Everyone's Responsibility**

You should all have received a text message outlining your child's absences and attendance to school for the Autumn Term. If your child is below 90% then please work with the school to ensure that this improves during the Spring Term. I understand that we are experiencing a very cold spell of weather and many students have flu/cold symptoms, but students should attend school whenever possible.

### **Class Charts**

All parents will be given a code to enable them to access information regarding their child using the Class Charts app. Future Executive Headteacher bulletins will be sent to Parents via Class Charts so please ensure that you login to your account. For many parents I am aware that English is not their first language - having analysed the data we have found that in addition to English, Arabic, Pashto, Somali and Urdu are the most frequently used languages. To improve communication, it is my intention that the Executive Headteacher bulletins will be sent to parents in these languages. May I also take this opportunity to inform all parents and students that any student who can speak, read and write another language will have the opportunity to take a GCSE in that language.

### **Year 11 - Mock examinations**

These commence on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January for two weeks. I hope that Year 11 students have spent time over the holidays preparing for them. As in previous mock examinations, we will be replicating how the examinations will be undertaken in the summer. We expect all students to have 100% attendance as they will not have the opportunity to resit any examinations that they miss.

Year 11 students will be reminded of how to conduct themselves during examinations including handing in mobile phones, remaining silent during examinations, etc. The results of these examinations will be used to identify what needs to be done to further grades between now and the summer examinations.

I wish all Year 11 the best of luck with their examinations.

### **Visitors in school**

Again, I would like to remind all students that we are regularly being visited by external visitors who are always keen to speak to students. When you see a visitor in school, please go over to them and introduce yourself and tell them how great City Academy is!

### **Key dates this half term**

- 12<sup>th</sup> Jan to 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan – Year 11 Mock Examinations
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January – important visitor in school looking at attendance
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January - Rewards trips for student leaders and others
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Opportunities day
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Parent Forum
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Year 9 Parents Evening
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February – SEND Coffee Morning
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Year 11 PC2 Results given to students
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of half term

It was good to see all our students back in school again after the holidays - I hope that 2026 will be a good year for everyone. Happy New Year!

Best wishes



**Mr Mann**  
**Executive Headteacher**