



Ladywood, Birmingham, B15 2EF  
0121 729 7100 • enquiries@corecity.academy  
Headteacher: Rebecca Bakewell  
🐦 @CORECityAcademy @COREeducate

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Welcome back 2022-2023**

City Academy firmly believe that children have the right to attend an outstanding school within their local community. For this to happen, we must all be relentless in our drive to ensure that our students make strong progress, enjoy their learning, achieve results that will prepare them for further education and provide them with the opportunities to succeed in their future careers.

The importance of an effective and respectful partnership between home and school is vital. If parents and the school work in unison, demanding the same high standards in all aspects of behaviour and academic achievement, then great learning will follow. We would like to thank all the parent/carers who have given their support this year and we ask for your continued support as we set even higher standards and expectations over the next academic year and beyond.

### **The importance of correct uniform and equipment**

Coming to school ready to learn is the most important thing that every child does each day. Being ready to learn means that the correct books and equipment must be ready in bags and homework must be completed in readiness for the lessons that day.

City Academy uniform, which sets our students apart from others, must be clean, smart and correctly worn so that there are no distractions to the learning process. Please refer to the uniform guidance attached to this letter which clearly reiterates the school's high expectations. Staff will be checking all equipment and uniform from the first day back in September and we thank you for your support with this.

### **The importance of excellent attendance and punctuality – great attendance = better academic performance.**

It is no surprise that those students who have excellent attendance and punctuality make far better progress and achieve better grades. There is an expectation that your child will have 100% attendance. For example, even **95% attendance equates on average to a child missing half a day of school every two weeks**. This is roughly 10 days missed over an academic year; a significant amount of learning time lost. Therefore, every student should aim for 100% attendance as this will ensure they do not miss any learning. We ask for your

support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and they arrive on time for the start of the school day by 8.30am ready for 8.35am start.

Whilst the Academy accepts that there are rare times when absence from school cannot be avoided, these occasions must be kept to a minimum. In line with the national directive, **the school will not authorise holidays in school time**. Where attendance drops below an acceptable threshold, parents will receive **penalty notices and may be asked to attend court to explain their child's absences**. We make no apologies for this hard line approach: regular attendance is one of the key factors in ensuring that children make progress at school and it is our duty to safeguard our students' learning. Please support your child by ensuring that they attend school every day.

### **Mobile phones**

Technology has become embedded throughout society and has transformed the way we expect to engage with services and consume content. At City Academy, we embrace the use of Educational Technology (EdTech) and we will help and support our students to navigate and make sense of the digital world around them. At City Academy, we believe our number one priority is the safety and happiness of every child. We have a legal obligation to keep children safe from harm and ensure we exercise our duty of care to teach students how to keep themselves safe. There has been an increase in the number of issues to do with online abuse via mobile phone technology and social media. As a result, students' wellbeing and mental health is being affected by this abuse of mobile phone technology. We appreciate that there is a positive side to mobile phone technology and students often carry mobile phones so that they can contact parents before and after school. Beyond this, there is no need for students to use their mobile phones in school.

City Academy ask parents for their continued support. No student should have their phone visible during the course of the day, which includes their social time at break and lunch. If a mobile is seen on the student it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

### **Contact**

While your child is a student at the school, they will be assigned a Year group Co-Ordinator that will support them during the academic year. If you have any questions or are in need of any support, please contact the school on 0121 729 7100 and reception will be happy to direct your call accordingly.



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 [@CORECityAcademy](https://twitter.com/CORECityAcademy) [@COREeducate](https://twitter.com/COREeducate)

Yours sincerely

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "Rebecca Bakewell".

Rebecca Bakewell  
Headteacher