

28<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have enjoyed a relaxing Easter break.

On Monday we opened the doors of the new Academy building to our students. The environment rapidly came alive as we organised the students ready to participate in a range of activities throughout the day. All students attended a special 'welcome assembly' and we were delighted to have our sponsors Eric and Grace Payne present for this occasion. The new facilities will now provide an opportunity not only to build on the progress made but to accelerate and extend the opportunities offered to our students.

I would like to thank all parents (well over 300) who were able to attend the tours of the new building. Feedback has been excellent with many parents themselves 'wanting to return to school!' Further opportunities to visit will be available (information to follow).

Students have been adjusting well to the new card system for payment of meals and we will continue to offer the option to use cash until the end of this week. There have been some problems with the use of damaged 'notes' e.g. with ink marks, sellotape or creases. Where possible the use of coins to load the machines is simpler alternatively please ensure that any notes you send in are undamaged. There will be a facility to pay on line later in the term.

The number of students who are absent due to holidays has reduced significantly and I thank you for your support with this important matter. I would like to remind you not to book holidays during term time as any such periods of absence will continue to be coded as 'unauthorised' in the official attendance register.

Please find attached a copy of the HMI Monitoring report based on the visit which took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010. This can also be accessed from the Q3 website.

By working together we can ensure that all students achieve and become the best that they can be. We need to have your full support in maintaining the high standards of behaviour which have been highlighted in the HMI report. There will continue to be zero tolerance of inappropriate business dress and poor behaviour, including any incidents which involve vandalism or damage to our new environment.

A copy of key dates is attached for your information which includes a reminder that the **Academy will be closed on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May (Bank Holiday) and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May (Staff INSET).**

I look forward to seeing you during the weeks ahead.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Badyal  
Chief Executive/Principal

## **KEY DATES**

### **Term dates for 2010**

#### **Autumn Term**

6<sup>th</sup> September 2010 – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010 (6<sup>th</sup> September 2010 INSET DAY)  
(Half Term: 25<sup>th</sup> October – 29<sup>th</sup> October 2010)

**Christmas Holidays:** 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010 – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2011

#### **Spring Term**

4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
(Half Term: 21<sup>st</sup> February – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2011)

**Easter Holidays:** 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011 – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2011

#### **Summer Term**

26<sup>th</sup> April 2011 – 29<sup>th</sup> July 2011

**May Day Bank Holiday:** 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2011

(Half Term: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011)

### **A reminder about key dates for this term:**

- Bank Holiday: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010
- INSET Day (Academy closed for students): 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010
- Whitsun Half Term: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 – 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010
- Leavers Service: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2010
- Bright Stars Evening: 6<sup>th</sup> July 2010
- INSET Day (Academy closed for students): 7<sup>th</sup> July 2010
- New Intake Evening 2: 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010
- Parent Consultation Day Key Stage 3: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010
- Parent Consultation Day Key Stage 4: 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010
- Year 5 Introduction Night: 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010
- Transition Week: 26<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010
- Last day of term: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE DOWN THE NEW ACADEMY ENTRANCE WHEN DROPPING OFF YOUR CHILDREN – THIS PRESENTS A HAZARD TO THE STUDENTS WHO ARE WALKING ALONG THE TEMPORARY PATH.**

**Thank you for your support with this matter.**