

2nd September 2008

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Q3 Academy

I am delighted to welcome you to Q3 Academy.

Today we opened our doors to over a thousand young people signalling the start of new hope and opportunity. We started the day with a special assembly for all students and staff which was held in the marquee. Our sponsors Eric and Grace Payne who joined us for this momentous occasion, presented all students with commemorative plaques to mark the opening of Q3 Academy.

A number of activities and events will be taking place throughout the week as detailed below:

Wednesday 3rd September

Company assemblies for all students with the Principal and representatives from 'hbg' the appointed construction company.

In July I invited all parents/carers to our Celebration Evening which is being held from 6.30 – 8.00 pm on Wednesday 3rd September in the marquee. A number of responses have been received and our **special guest 'Cyril Regis' has now confirmed that he will be joining us for the evening. If you would like to attend please ensure that you inform us either by telephone or in writing by Wednesday morning.** Sandwiches, cakes, tea, coffee and juice will be available at the end of the evening.

Thursday 4th September

We are awaiting confirmation regarding sessions for all students to be photographed for their ID badge and the Q3 collage. If confirmed, these sessions will take place on a company rota basis throughout the day.

Friday 5th September

A special celebration event is being held for all staff and students in the marquee from 12.35 – 3.05. Lunch and entertainment will be provided.

Please note there will be no KICK START sessions operating this week.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for their patience and understanding during the distribution of uniforms, and also to apologise for the delays that some of our families have experienced. However, I am sure you will agree that the students look very smart and they are indeed a credit to you!

As you have come onto site to collect uniform you will have noticed that the Academy has undergone considerable refurbishment during the summer break, and will now provide a much improved learning environment in the period leading up to the handover of the new building early in 2010. The Academy Shop, Cyber Cafe, Room for Reflection, Diary Room, Learning Studio and Garden of Reflection are just some of the exciting new developments. We will be holding our Open Week from Monday 22nd September through to Friday 26th September when you will be most welcome to join us for a tour of the Academy, where you will be able to see the new initiatives in action.

Construction of the new Academy building started on Monday 11th August and is on schedule for completion in 2010. We will be providing an update on progress during the Celebration Evening on Wednesday.

You should by now have been able to access a copy of the new 'Handbook for Parents' which is available to view or download from the Q3 website at www.q3academy.org.uk. The handbook outlines key information and provides a useful reference for queries. Please contact us if you are unable to view the document.

Your child's Company Strategic Director will be contacting you to introduce themselves and to provide further information on forthcoming dates for your diaries.

Earlier, I referred to new hope and opportunity – I would also ask you to support us in encouraging a 'spirit of adventure' which is characterized by your child's ability to take on positive, healthy challenges not just within the Academy but also at home, with family and friends. Children experience the 'spirit of adventure' when they tackle something new without the fear of failure or success. By working together we can ensure that all students achieve and become the best that they can.

I look forward to working with you to develop Q3 Academy into a 'world class learning community'.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Badyal
Chief Executive/Principal