

[Click here to access the Student Navigator.](#) The student navigator page contains links to all the pages you will need if you are learning from home.

[Click here to access a guide to INSIGHT,](#) our student information system.

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Key dates

20th May	Year 8 Parents' evening
28th May	Inset Day - no school for students
14th - 25th June	Year 7-9 Assessments
28th June - 9th July	Year 10 Assessments





PSHE, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Consultation

From September 2021, it is a statutory requirement that all schools in England and Wales are teaching Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) as a fundamental part of the curriculum. This means that we will be reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age
- Physical and emotional maturity
- Religious and cultural backgrounds
- Special Educational Needs

As part of implementing the RSE curriculum, schools must consult with the children, parents, staff and governors to ensure there is a general consensus on our approaches to policy and the curriculum content.

John Cabot Academy will be starting their consultation process on Monday 17th May 2021; the consultation will close on the Friday 21st May 2021.

As part of this, parents, staff and governors, will be asked to read through the following document:

- [Consultation on PSHE/RSE Policy, May 2021](#)

If you wish to carry out further reading around RSE, the following may be of use to you:

- [Government Guidance](#)

Regards,
Joanne Shipp
(Lead PSHE/RSE)



Covid Guidance Update

From May 17, new guidance will come into effect for schools, in line with the Government's Covid-19 roadmap.

Secondary students will no longer be required to wear face coverings in classrooms or communal areas. However, if possible, we would like students to continue to bring a face covering to school as before, as there may be areas of the school in which they may be asked to wear them, where it is more difficult to stay apart. While the government no longer recommends the wearing of face coverings in the classroom, students may choose to wear them at any time during the day if they feel more comfortable doing so. Staff at JCA will also no longer be required to wear face coverings in classrooms. Staff and visitors will continue to wear masks outside the classroom in areas where social distancing is not possible (such as corridors and communal areas).

All of our current Health and Safety measures will remain in place from May 17 as follows:

1. Continue to follow guidance to test and self-isolate if you display symptoms and do not attend school;
2. Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances;
3. Clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual;
4. Follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach;
5. We will maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often;
6. Maintain social distancing wherever possible and bubbles will continue;
7. Occupied spaces will continue to be well ventilated;

Thank you for your continued support and as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at jcainfo@clf.uk



Friends of JCA - Our PTA - Looking for Volunteers

JCA has historically had a wonderful Parent Teacher Association, called the Friends of JCA. Its purpose is twofold: fundraising and information sharing.

By selling snacks, drinks and ice-creams at key events e.g. Sports Day, Parents' evenings and Concerts, significant sums of money were raised, almost £1000 alone each Sports Day. This also served a vital service - parents are usually desperate for a cup of tea during Parents' evening! Different departments were then able to bid for this money for things we would otherwise not be able to afford e.g. new musical instruments or supporting students to go on trips like Duke of Edinburg expeditions.

The other purpose of the 'Friends' is to support parents with access to information. At Primary school, it is easy for Parents to have a good understanding of everything that is going on at school. That is always much harder at Secondary school as students become more independent and have multiple teachers. So the Friends support you as parents by providing information (via Social Media) about e.g. upcoming events or where to go to have a question answered.

Joining the Friends of JCA is a great way of getting to know the school and supporting your child while they are here, and making your own friends too. I am reassured that with a team of 10 parents, it is a very easily manageable time commitment. If you are interested in joining the Friends, please do email the jcainfo@clf.uk mailbox expressing your interest. Hopefully we can get a team up and running in time for this summer's Sports Day.



What is my child learning?

Thank you to all parents and carers who complete the surveys after each Parents' evening, the feedback is really helpful. The last few surveys have showed that understanding what your child is learning is the area you most want more information on. We have two resources on our website:

- The curriculum plans for every year group for every term show the topics your child is learning: <https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/curriculum-statement/>
- A full list of every GCSE exam board so you know precisely which GCSEs your child is studying. If you are worried about buying the correct revision guides, we stock the right ones for our GCSE courses. You can order through Sco-pay. <https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/curriculum/curriculum/>

I spoke to a few parents (thank you for your time) to understand what else you want to help you understand what your child is learning. One of the key areas you wanted to know was when are our students going to sit tests/assessments/exams and what are they expected to revise. There are always ongoing small, low stakes assessments in class, this is an element of good teaching. But the significant assessments for the remainder of this year are:

- Years 7-9: Monday 14th June to Friday 25th June. Assessments in every subject, based on work completed across Terms 5 and 6. The assessments will be both:
 - Online multiple choice questions (completed at home)
 - In-class written tests
- Year 10: Monday 28th June to Friday 9th July. Exams in every subject, based on all GCSE work studied **to date**. These will be past GCSE papers, sat in the GCSE hall. The experience of taking mock exams under these conditions, but with low stakes (i.e. the results don't actually matter) is an essential part of preparing them for real GCSE exams in the summer.

The results of all of these assessments/exams will inform the teachers' assessed grades and will be sent home to you in reports at the end of term 6.



Virtual UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair - May 26th

We are encouraging students to take part in the **UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair** on **Wednesday 26th May** (12:00-18:00). This free event features a multitude of universities, colleges, and apprenticeship providers from around the UK, along with 10 interactive webinars and **virtual campus tours**. It is aimed at years 13, 12, 11, and 10 as well as parents. The event will provide your child with all the information they need to make informed decisions about their post-18 options.

Students, parents and carers simply need to register online at:

<https://ukunisearchsouth.vfairs.com>

Students and parents can **chat directly** with a mixture of Russell Group, red brick, and modern universities from around the UK to find out invaluable information about courses and life at university, and discover what **admissions tutors** are looking for in UCAS applications. Attendees can also speak to colleges, universities and local and national companies about their **apprenticeship schemes**.

10 interactive webinars will run throughout the day on a variety of university and apprenticeship topics, such as UCAS Personal Statements, Careers & Employability, Clearing, Student Finance, and Apprenticeships. There is also a special webinar to help support parents and teachers taking place at 17:00. The webinars are run by university and apprenticeship professionals who will also host Q&A sessions after the presentations.

You can view the webinar timetable and presenters list using this link:

<https://ukunisearchsouth.vfairs.com/en/webinar-timetable>

Students should try to register in advance to receive reminder emails with new exhibitor alerts, information on how the day will work and how your child can make the most of the exhibitor interactions. Each webinar will be recorded so students can watch any of interest after the live session has taken place. After 2nd June all webinars will be available to stream on **StudentStream** along with lots of other videos from universities:

<http://studentstream.co.uk>

Please encourage your son or daughter to book their free place and view the list of exhibitors who've signed up so far here: <https://ukunisearchsouth.vfairs.com>

We recommend registering for the event as soon as possible to ensure students have time to prepare for the big day.





- FREE EVENT -

UK university & apprenticeship search virtual fairs

Wednesday 26th May
12pm - 6pm

SOUTH



Universities
Colleges and
Apprenticeships



10
Live Webinars

Register here



<https://ukunisearchsouth.vfairs.com>



Half term Holiday Activities

South Gloucestershire Council

This leaflet lists the holiday clubs that will be running for children aged 5 to 16 years during the half term, **Tuesday 1st to Friday 4th June**.

The clubs are being delivered by Holiday Activities and Food Programme **approved providers**. These clubs require payment please see details below.

All activities listed below have been risk assessed by the provider and they have all the necessary DBS checks in place.



Progressive Sports creating happy, healthy and active experiences for your child during the school holidays at:

- Abbeywood Community School
- Blackhorse Primary School
- Bromley Heath Junior School
- Hanham Primary Federation (Hanham Abbots Juniors and Samuels Whites).
- Watermore Primary School

Tuesday 1st - Friday 4th May 8.30am-3.30pm daily

£17 per child, per day

The courses are open to children aged 4 to 13 years.

Over 20 sports on offer, from Zorb Football to Cricket, Archery to Frisbee, Glow Sports to Tennis – there is something for everyone!

To book, please click on <https://progressive-sports-south-glos-bristol.class4kids.co.uk/camps>





Swift Sports Coaching will be running their established holiday clubs from 3 sites this Half Term.

- St John's Mead Primary – Chipping Sodbury
- St Michael's Primary – Winterbourne
- Longwell Green Primary

For children from **4-13 years**

Tuesday 1st June - Friday 4th June

The days run from **8.45am to 3.30pm**

Activities will include Nerf Battlegrounds, Ninja Training, Archery, Skools Out, Football, Frisbee and lots more!

Price: **£16.50 per child per day** (10% sibling discount & 10% multi day discount if you book all 4 days)

To book please email bookings@swiftsportscoaching.co.uk or call **07537 991991**

For more information, please visit www.swiftsportscoaching.co.uk or find Swift Sports Coaching on Facebook.



Krunch South West will be open in The Pod at Thornbury Skate Park.

Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd June

11am – 2pm

For ages **10-18 years**

This will include, crafts, cooking, sports, games and bushcraft.

£1 entry to all activities. The Pod kitchen will also be open for drinks and snacks at additional cost.

For more information call 07735405175 or email Penny@krunch.org.uk

See the website www.krunch.org.uk for more details

Please note: for all bookings and enquiries please contact the providers directly.



South Gloucestershire Music

Future Talent – Applications are Open

Future Talent supports gifted young musicians from low-income backgrounds, providing a range of performance and development opportunities including mentoring, masterclasses and workshops led by inspiring professional musicians and educators.

They also provide young musicians with guidance from our dedicated Relationship Team and financial support towards musical expenses including instrument and equipment costs, lesson fees, residential courses and more.

Applications are open until 1 July 2021.

To apply, visit <https://www.futuretalent.org/join/programme>.

Songwriting Competition – Achievement for All for ages 11-19

Open to all 11-19 year olds.

We are looking for original music composition and lyrics, which can be performed by an individual or group of young people. It is important to note that this competition is judging the song writing and music composition, it is not a singing competition.

We welcome all genres of music, anything from opera to rap and beyond and have ensured that our judges have equally diverse musical backgrounds appreciating all music types.

The winner will get to record their winning song at Real World Studios with the support of a technical team, it will also be played on local radio stations and will be hosted as Achievement for All's theme song on the website.

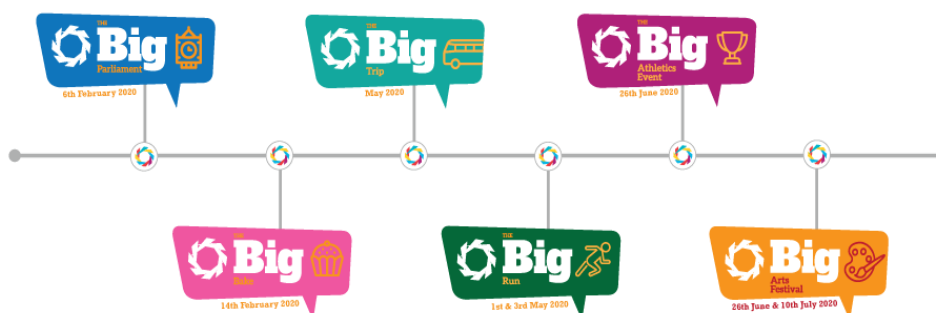
Other prizes include vouchers for equipment and mentoring by a music industry professional. The competition opened to entrants on Wednesday 21st April 2021 and will close on Sunday July 25th 2021.

For more details, visit: Song Writing Competition – AFA Education (afamusic.org)



CLF Big Event Timeline

Big Run and Big Walk – This month is the CLF Big Run and Big Walk. Previously, colleagues were asked to pledge miles to our target of 11,662 miles. This month, colleagues and students across all academies will be running and walking their miles and adding them to our total. If any colleagues did not previously pledge miles, they can still get involved by running or walking any miles during the month of May. All miles can be submitted via the form [here](#).



Year 11 Leaving Dates

After consultation across the CLF, I can confirm the arrangements for year 11 for the end of the year are as follows:

- Year 11 will remain in school until Friday 28th May. They will use lesson time in the last two weeks to complete the administration associated with Teacher Assessed Grades. They may also have the opportunity to learn some additional content (that will not be assessed) but 'completes' their GCSE courses and better prepares them for their onward study. Some students may be catching up on missed assessments.
- Fortnight commencing 7th June: 'Next step' fortnight. A fortnight of sessions focussing on careers and destinations. Some will be CLF wide sessions, some led by JCA staff. It will be virtual, although some students may be invited on site. Full details will be communicated in w/c 24th May.
- Friday 18th 8:40 - 10am is the leavers assembly, after which students will leave site.
- Friday 2nd July: Prom at The Grange, Winterbourne.
- Thursday 12th August GCSE results day.



Year 11 Prom

A prom invitation letter was emailed to Parents/Carers of all Year 11 students at the end of last week and we are now taking payments via SCOPAY only for the event, which is being held at Mercure Bristol North The Grange on Friday 2nd July. Tickets cost £30.00 and we require an initial payment of £20.00 by Friday 14th May and then the final payment of £10.00 by Monday 7th June.

To secure your child's place, please login to SCOPAY to make your payment before Friday 14th May.

When making your SCOPAY payment, you will also be asked:

- to confirm your consent for your child to attend the event
- to detail medical information/allergies in the Comments box when confirming your consent
- if there are no essential medical information/allergies to advise, please state 'None' in the Comments box.
- alternatively, if the Comments box is not large enough for the details you wish to enter, please email JCAFinance@clf.uk so that the details can be added to your child's record for the Prom

Please do not forget to advise medical information/allergies or state 'None' as requested above as we require this information for the venue.

If you have not used SCOPAY before and require an online link code to complete your account setup, please contact JCAFinance@clf.uk or call Reception and ask to speak with the Finance Office. The information required for the link code to be produced for you is the full name of your child, their tutor group, and your email address so that the code and instructions can be emailed to you.

Preloved Prom

We are following in the wonderful footsteps of King Alfreds School in Burnham, by starting our very own JCA collection of preloved prom outfits. The suits and dresses will be dry cleaned and available to Year 11 students to borrow to wear.

We have reached out to various companies for donations of outfits but would welcome anything in any sizing to add to our rail!





Please get in touch with Miss Grierson if you would like to donate or have any questions.

Mental Health Week

It is Mental Health Week 2021 and this year the theme is 'Connect with Nature' please find a link to the Mental Health's Foundations Nature Guide for Parent's and Carers. Which looks at why nature is good for our mental health and some top tips for supporting your young person to engage in nature.

The schools counselling service run a drop-in on Thursday lunchtime in SF5. Students can come and talk about any wellbeing or mental health concerns or questions that they have, in an informal, friendly and confidential space.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/sites/default/files/Nature%20Guide%20for%20Parents%20and%20Caregivers.pdf>

Free Mathematics Webinar

Helping Your Child Overcome Maths Anxiety & Build Mathematical Resilience, aimed at parents of children aged 9 to 14. The webinar takes place on Wednesday 12th May at 8pm.

If you are interested, please follow the link

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qillACidQ7K0PwZ9Tx6tHg

You can reserve a place on this page:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qillACidQ7K0PwZ9Tx6tHg



The Big Ask

Join the country wide questionnaire 'The Big Ask', the largest ever survey of children and young people in England. The findings will be used to show the government what children and young people think, and what children need to live happier lives

https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/#msdynttrid=WhKhdc9BA_Y3rEdMOVjM0BUtTPnWmqU3u6wpncar0Uo

Overdue Library Books

At John Cabot Academy we are lucky to have a well-stocked library, but in order to maintain the high standard and variety of the books on offer, it is necessary for us to insist that loaned books are always returned for the enjoyment and benefit of all of our students. We are now running a system of distributing regular library loan statements to students so that they know exactly which library books on their account are currently overdue.

Students will receive up to 3 reminder statements prompting them to return their books or visit the library to arrange a renewal on books they are still reading. Students can access the library from Monday to Wednesday, at break, lunch and tutor times. If books remain unreturned after the 3rd reminder statement a book replacement fee will be added to your SCOPAY account.

Ultimately, however, we would much prefer to have books back in the library, and on return of overdue items to the library, replacement charges will be removed from your account.



Finance

Revision Guides for Year 10 Students

We will be placing another order with suppliers for Revision Guides at the end of the first week of Term 6. Revision Guides will therefore reappear on SCOPAY for Year 10 students this week. The deadline for orders is Wednesday 09/06/2021. Please note that late orders after the deadline cannot be accepted as it will delay the delivery of the guides.

Orders are only being taken via SCOPAY and so if you have not already set up your SCOPAY account please message JCAFinance@clf.uk to request a link code.

SCOPAY - Online Payment System - Preferred Method of Payment

SCOPAY is our preferred method of payment for all transactions when making payments to the academy.

This system allows you to make payments for trips, events, music tuition and learning resources plus your child's school lunch account can also be topped up using this system. The system can be used on a desktop computer or you can download the App to use on your mobile phone or tablet meaning that you can access your account at any time. If you have not already received a link code or require an additional link code(s) to enable another Parent/Carer to also set up a SCOPAY account and make payments for your child(ren), please send an email to JCAFinance@clf.uk

SCOPAY - Payments for School Lunches

Please remember to check if your child's School Lunch account requires topping up with funds to enable them to purchase food from the canteen.

If you would like to set up alerts so that you will know when their balance is getting low and requires topping up, please go to the John Cabot Academy website - Our Academy - Canteen and Online Payments, where you will find the 'SCOPAY Parent Guide - Alerts' at the bottom of the page to help you.

Alternatively, you can copy and paste the following to your browser: -

<https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/our-academy/canteen-and-online-payments/>

There are two further SCOPAY Parents Guides, one for Managing Your Account and another for Making Payments, that you may also find useful on this page.

Purchase of School Ties

The option to purchase a school tie for £6.00 via SCOPAY is available for every student and SCOPAY continues to be our preferred method of payment. If your child has lost their tie,



you can purchase a replacement via your SCOPAY account, and it will be available for collection by your child the following morning.

Alternatively, *for ties only*, a cash payment can be accepted – please send your correct payment of £6.00 in an envelope with their full name, year group and tutor group detailed. Please ask your child to collect their tie from the Finance Office.

The Finance Office is open to students every day before school and during break time.

Purchase of Calculators

The option to purchase a calculator from the academy continues to be available to all students via SCOPAY.

If you wish to purchase a calculator for your child, there are two types available and currently in stock: -

- Casio ClassWiz FX991EX Scientific Calculator @ £19.50 each, or
- Casio FX83GT Scientific Calculator @ £8.50 each

When you have made your SCOPAY purchase, your child will be able to collect their calculator from the Finance Office. The Finance Office is open to students every day before school and during break time.

Purchase of Memory Cards for GCSE Photography

The option to purchase memory cards from the Academy continues to be available on SCOPAY for all GCSE Photography students.

There are currently two types in stock:-

- HAMA 16GB SDHC Card @ £5.50 each, or
- HAMA 4GB SDHC Card @ £4.00 each

When you have made your SCOPAY purchase, your child will be able to collect their memory card from the Finance Office. The Finance Office is open to students every day before school and during break time.

SCOPAY - Link to Login Page

You can find a link to the SCOPAY Login Page if you go to the John Cabot Academy website - Our Academy - Canteen and Online Payments.

Alternatively, you can copy and paste the following to your browser: -

<https://www.scopay.com/john-cabot-ac>

Finance Queries

If you have any finance queries, please contact the Finance Office by emailing

JCAFinance@clf.uk

