

[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.

Contents

Key Dates.....	1
JCA Routines: Following Staff Instructions (Addressing Defiance).....	2
Equality Mark and the JCA Motto.....	2
Attendance.....	3
Harry Potter Competition.....	4
Parent Councillor Election.....	5
Dance Show.....	5
Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.....	6
Parent Helplines.....	7
LGBTQ Wellbeing Group.....	9

Key Dates

22 nd January	Year 10 Geography Field Trip – Group A
23 rd January	Dance Show
25 th January	Year 10 Geography Field Trip – Group B
30 th January	Year 9 / 10 Orchestra Trip
31 st January	Anti-Bullying Staff/Student/Parent Working Group
7 th February	Harry Potter Day in the Library
9 th February	Last Day of Term
19 th February	First Day of Term

JCA Routines: Following Staff Instructions (Addressing Defiance)

In John Cabot we have 8 clear routines, which we follow so that everyone knows both what to expect and what is expected of them.

We do this because it helps students to feel safe and, if they feel safe, they feel able to learn. Sometimes, our students don't follow our instructions for the first time.

We follow this up in a structured way to give our young people the opportunity to get it right: We address the student (by name if we know them) and clearly state the request we are making:

"Here at JCA we....."

"This is a reasonable request. Are you choosing not to follow it?"

Most of our students make the right choice once given this opportunity, however, some are sent to our Separated Learning Room if they don't take this moment to reflect and make the right decision. Year teams work with students who need support in building their resilience to 'bounce back' when things have gone wrong for them; we are so proud to watch our students build these skills in social interactions.

Gemma Read
Vice Principal

Equality Mark and the JCA Motto

As you may already be aware, John Cabot is this year pursuing the Equality Mark, as a way of recognising the significant work we do with respect to our wonderfully diverse community.

The process is being overseen by Josiah Chudleigh, South Glos council's equality in schools lead. He came into JCA in July 2023, in order to meet with staff and students, establish our current practice and decide what we need to do this year in order to achieve the equality mark. This is a lovely description of our practice, from Josiah, as of July 2023:

"This is one of the best scores I've delivered to a S.Glos school and I believe JCA is deserving of that.... There is a lot to be proud of here. I am encouraged to see there is a true desire fulfil the wider societal/cultural needs of very diverse school, as that is the most important tool we can use to get to where we want to be; intention."

During the 23-24 Academic year, we have 3 key actions to undertake in order to achieve the equality mark. These are below with timings for them to take place:

1. Micro-aggressions and the n-word - Training for staff (October inset)
2. Review of Employment practices (term 2, ready for term 3 recruitment season)

3. Promotion of the JCA motto (Term 3 onwards)
 - a. Positive stories (Term 3 onwards)
 - b. Knowledge of different culture/religions (Each inset day throughout the year)

It is this third action that I am writing to you about today. Last year, staff and students together summarised the JCA [vision](#) and created our new motto: Empower yourself, Empower your community. We have been slowly 'drip feeding' this motto into our day to day work at JCA e.g. examples of students who have empowered our community are in assemblies, changing our logo and putting it onto the website and other communications. As a result, you will, notice some changes in the structure of our parent newsletter so you can clearly see how JCA is empowering our students and our community.



Empower yourself. Empower our community.

Would you like to know more about our equality work? If so, please complete this quick survey so we can find out the best way to tell you about our work:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ViObpySMlkm0IMbibQtAkd2RqX77YaNOuXm8txxV2uhUNEIBSFNQMjFVNjM4U1ZLMzRGNlITQjM4NC4u>

Kate Willis

Principal

Attendance

We would like to extend **a big thank you** to all our John Cabot Academy parents and carers for supporting your children to attend school and engage so well with their learning. We know that this reflects the value our families place on children learning in school every day.

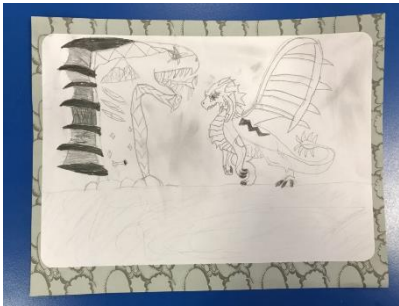
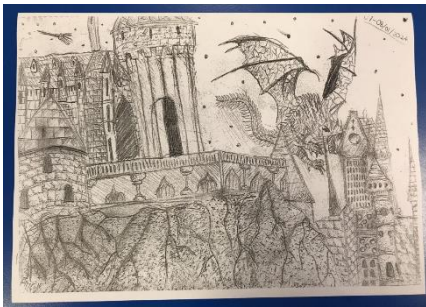
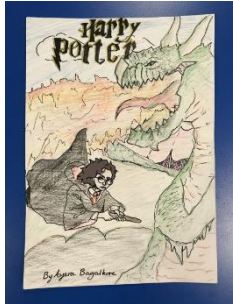
At John Cabot Academy, we want and expect our students to attend school every day, unless they are really not well enough to.

We believe that children who attend regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education. Students that attend more achieve more. Research shows a strong link between strong attendance and good outcomes and progress. This equips students for success in post year 11 provision.

Attending on time every day also helps students form good habits which can stay with them throughout their education and on into the workplace

Harry Potter Competition

Students can vote for their favourite in the library from now until 6th February, and parents can vote online via the Facebook page by liking your favourite. The winner will be announced at the HP event on 7th February, and again the following Monday for those students who don't attend the event.



Parent Councillor Election

This is the final few days to apply for the Parent Councillor position and all the details can be found by the below link. The deadline is 25th January 2024.

[Parent Councillor Vacancy January 2024 - John Cabot Academy \(clf.uk\)](#)

Dance Show



DANCE SHOW 2024
Tue 23rd January 6.00pm

SHOWTIME
DANCE SHOW

John Cabot Academy

Tickets : **£3** (adult) & **£2** (senior citizens & students)

Purchase tickets online through **SCOPAY** or in person at the door



Bristol Old Vic Theatre School



Bristol Old Vic Theatre School

Happy New Year from BOVTS!

We're thrilled to share the latest updates and information from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. We have you on record as a contact for your school or college regarding information and opportunities from the Theatre School.

If you're not the designated contact, please kindly forward this message to your drama department or a member of your careers team.

BA and MA Course Deadline Update - Year 12 & 13

Do you teach Year 12 or 13? Well, we're thrilled to invite your students to explore the exciting world of acting or costume with our fantastic higher education courses! The dates for the application entry have been slightly tweaked this year. Here are all the updates:

Professional Acting BA (Hons)

Application for 2024 entry will close on 31st January 2024

Find out more about our auditions process for Professional Acting BA (Hons), [here](#).

Foundation Degree (FdA) Costume for Theatre, TV and Film

Application for 2024 entry will close on 29 February 2024

We have a drop-in costume session for students interested in the Costume for Theatre, TV and Film course, on 17th January. Please register your interest by emailing student.recruitment@oldvic.ac.uk

For more detailed information on the application process, and course information, please visit the [BOVTS website](#). Make sure to review the guidelines and submit your application promptly. If you or your students require any further information or guidance, we'd be happy to help at student.recruitment@oldvic.ac.uk

Young Conservatoire - Thursday evenings! -Ages 16–18

Calling all Year 11 and 12 teachers! If you teach students interested in acting and performing, please take a look at this new course at BOVTS, designed to enhance their craft in theatre. We will support you by providing the skills they need to become successful actors.

Who is Young Conservatoire for? Open to aspiring professional actors aged 16–18, Young Conservatoire complements your students' existing studies and requires

How do I apply? Audition with a two-minute speech from a published play. You can do this online or in-person, with auditions for the 2024 spring term held throughout January. Please see <https://oldvic.ac.uk/>

What will I be doing? The course covers acting basics, movement, and voice work, mirroring the first year at drama school. Classes, led by experienced instructors, evolve over each 10-week term, providing industry insights and practical skills.

Each 10-week term covers text, character, improvisation, and concludes with a performance. *Fees are £185 per term or £500 for the full calendar year.*

Stage and Screen Combat - Ages 7-18

This Easter, BOVTS offers a thrilling Stage and Screen Combat course for ages 7-18. Led by expert tutors, it covers armed and unarmed combat, broadsword techniques, and includes an optional qualification. Running from 10 - 4pm daily, the course is a unique blend of education and excitement, finishing in an epic group fight scene. Don't miss your chance to experience the thrills of stage and screen combat!

Parent Helplines

YoungMinds have a parent telephone and online service that are concerned about their child under the age of 25.

Telephone service is available:
0808 802 5544.
Monday - Friday 9:30am - 4:00pm.

The online chat service is available using the link below and is open the same times as the telephone service.

[Parents Helpline](#) | [Mental Health Help for Your Child](#) | [YoungMinds](#)

There is also parent support line from Action for children which can be accessed via this link:

[1:1 chat - Parent Talk \(actionforchildren.org.uk\)](#)



LGBTQ Wellbeing Group



LGBTQ+ WELLBEING GROUP

Learn how to look after your wellbeing in a safe and supportive space.

Build new relationships and make friends.

Have fun, go walking in nature and get support from wellbeing practitioners.

Hanham Youth Centre, High St, Hanham, BS15 3EJ

19th Jan, 23rd Feb, 15th March, 19th April, 17th May, 21st June, 19th July, 16th August, 20th September, 18th October, 15th November, 20th December.

4:15-5:15pm

For 11-19 year olds

FREE

This group run by youth workers, wellbeing practitioners, artists, and trainee counsellors.



Find out more & book now:
www.creativeyouthnetwork.org.uk/lgbt-wellbeing-group

Get in touch:
Laura: laura.cooke@creativeyouthnetwork.org.uk / 07435551406
or
Jacob: jacob.greg-harris@diversitytrust.org.uk



REG NO: 01099484 | REG CHARITY NO: 266318 | VAT NO: B0992037