

[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
September Return to School Dates.....	2
September Return to School Dates.....	3
Parents / Carers Evening Dates and Open Events.....	3
What Will My Child Be Learning in September?	3
Homework at JCA.....	4
Tutor List.....	4
Timings of the Day 2025 -26	6
Pastoral Staffing.....	6
New Staff Joining us in 2025/26.....	8
Changes for 2025/26: Period 1 and the 5 Minute Rule	8
Changes for 2025/26: Uniform.....	9
Changes for 2025/26: Hijabs, Bonnets, Durags and Hair Colour	10
Equipment.....	11
Changes for 2025/26: Bringing the Academy into Disrepute	11
Attendance Information for Parents and Carers	11

Key Dates

1 st September	INSET Day, School Closed to Pupils
2 nd September	INSET Day, School Closed to Pupils
3 rd September	Year 7 Pupils Only
4 th September	School Open to All Pupils
11 th September	Sports Award Evening
15-17 th September	Year 9 Residential Camp

23 rd September	Open Evening – Students Finish at 14:40
30 th September	Open Day Tours
3 rd October	Road Safety Show
6 th October	23 Hour Sportathon
8 th October	Year 11 Parent / Carer Evening
9 th October	Open Day
13 th – 22 nd October	Year 11 Mock Exams
15 th October	Wear Red Day & Tuck Shop Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening
17 th October	KS3 Rugby Festival
21 st October	Open Day Tours
22 nd October	End of Term 1
3 rd November	Start of Term 2

September Return to School Dates

Welcome Back to a New School Year at John Cabot Academy!

We're thrilled to welcome our students, staff, and families back for another exciting year of learning, growth, and achievement. At John Cabot Academy, we remain deeply committed to nurturing every individual, inspiring a love of learning, and strengthening the bonds that make our community thrive. Whether you're returning or joining us for the first time, we look forward to supporting each of you in reaching your full potential.

Our year 11s certainly did that over the summer. We celebrate again, some of the best results in Bristol and the country, with
77% of students achieving 9-4 in all their exams

64% of students achieving 9-5 in all their exams
25% of students achieving 9-7 in all their exams

These results are much better than the national average and are the result of consistent hard work by our students, inspiring learning from our teachers and your support as families. Let's make this coming year one to remember—filled with inspiration, collaboration, and success!

September Return to School Dates

We would like to remind families of the School days the first week back in September

Monday 1st September – INSET Day, school closed to pupils
Tuesday 2nd September - INSET Day, school closed to pupils
Wednesday 3rd September - Year 7 only
Thursday 4th September – School open to all pupils

Parents / Carers Evening Dates and Open Events

All the key dates are available for the year on our website [here](#) and [here](#).

Our Open Events are below, we'll want as many of our current students to help on the evening - we always get such good feedback about them from prospective parents, they are real ambassadors for the school.

Open Evening

Tuesday 23rd September 2025
4 – 7pm

Open Days

Tuesday 30th September 2025 at 9am and 2pm
Tuesday 21st October 2025 at 9am and 2pm

What Will My Child Be Learning in September?

<https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/curriculum-statement/>

On this page of the website, you will find the full curriculum plans for every subject for every year group throughout the year.

Homework at JCA

Homework forms a really important part of a secondary-age student's learning. It helps them remember the important content of each subject, and it is also about taking responsibility for learning, time management, meeting deadlines and seeking help.

Our students receive one piece of homework in every subject every week, and have one week to complete it.

Usually homework is a task or practice quiz set on Bromcom (English, history, RP, geography, music, drama, creative design, Spanish, science). Maths work is completed on a paper worksheet.

Parents and carers can see what's been set on Bromcom, via MCAS. For information on how to install/use MCAS, please see [here](#).

If you are stuck or need any help with homework on MCAS, please email JCAinfo@clf.uk and put 'homework' as the subject.

How do students access their homework on Bromcom at home?

1. Go <https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/>
2. Click **login** at the top of the page, and choose student navigator
3. Enter their school login details. These are the same as they use to login at school, in computing lessons
4. Choose the red student portal tile
5. Scroll down to the homework module, and click more to open it
6. Click on a task and follow the instructions

Tutor List

Year 7		
Head of Key Stage: Tom Griffiths		Assembly: Monday
PTL: Mani Baird		SSL: Charlotte Crew
1 - 7SAL	AF5	Silas Allen
2 - 7LUT	AG1	Lisa Utley/Chris Hamer
3- 7JSH	BF5	Jo Shipp
4 - 7AJA	AF6	Adam James
5 - 7HKI	AG6	Harvey King
6 - 7KDA	TF6	Katy Davies
Year 8		
Head of Key Stage: Tom Griffiths		Assembly: Tuesday
PTL: Lucy Strawford		SSL: Helen Small
1 - 8RPA	CF6	Rick Park

2 - 8MRO	AF7	Marissa Roberts
3 - 8ATE	CG4	Alex Teague/Shamsa Chaudhury
4 - 8JDE	AG2	Jake Deakin
5 - 8DDU	CG6	David Dunn
6 - 8EGR	AG5	Emily Grainger/Shamsa Chaudhury
Year 9		
Head of Key Stage: Tom Griffiths		Assembly: Wednesday
PTL: Tom Sillitoe		SSL: Vickie Malin
Tutor Group	Tutor Base	Tutor
1 - 9SOH	AF4	Sophie Haskins
2 - 9CGR	AG10	Charlotte Grierson
3 - 9ICA	CF1	Isabelle Cantel
4 - 9RGA	AF2	Ruben Garcia-Partida
5 - 9LME	AG8	Lorna Mead/Sally Maud
6 - 9JGO	TF1	Jade Goodyear
Year 10		
Head of Key Stage: Jan Allen		Assembly: Thursday
PTL: Chris Titterington		SSL: Lorene Archibald
1 - 10HAH	BF9A	Hayley Holton/Chris Titterington
2 - 10HSU	AG3	Harriet Summers
3 - 10CBN	CF4	Craig Barrable
4 - 10SAC	CG2	Sarah Church
5 - 10DAL	TF11	Danny Allsop
6 - 10RSH	AF1	Richard Shepherd/Meryl Campbell
Year 11		
Head of Key Stage: Jan Allen		Assembly: Friday
PTL: Claire Dutton		SSL: Simon Horn
1 - 11SBE	AF10	Sian Bettsworth/Claire Dutton
2 - 11GFO	AF11	Gareth Foster/Jess Nash
3 - 11CFU	TF13	Chris Fuller
4 - 11CPR	TF5	Chris Proffitt
5 - 11SAB	TF4	Sam Bryce
6 - 11TPR	CG1	Tanya Price/Jess Nash

Timings of the Day 2025 -26

We will continue our staggered breaks and lunches as the students really appreciate the space to eat and play. All the timings remain the same.

2025/2026 Timings of the Day					
	7	8	9	10	11
Arrival Window	8:20 - 8:40	8:20 - 8:40	8:20 - 8:40	8:20 - 8:40	8:20 - 8:40
Social Time Location	Canteen/Foyer/Hardcourt	Canteen/Foyer/Hardcourt	Canteen/Foyer/Hardcourt	Street	Street
Toilets	Canteen	Canteen	Canteen	Street	Street
Period 1	8:40 - 9:30	8:40 - 9:30	8:40 - 9:30	8:40 - 9:30	8:40 - 9:30
Period 2	9:30 - 10:40	9:30 - 10:40	9:30 - 10:40	9:30 - 10:40	9:30 - 10:40
Break	9:55 - 10:15	10:20 - 10:40	9:30 - 9:50	10:20 - 10:40	9:30 - 9:50
Period 3	10:40 - 11:30	10:40 - 11:30	10:40 - 11:30	10:40 - 11:30	10:40 - 11:30
Period 4	11:30 - 12:20	11:30 - 12:20	11:30 - 12:20	11:30 - 12:20	11:30 - 12:20
Period 5	12:20 - 13:50	12:20 - 13:50	12:20 - 13:50	12:20 - 13:50	12:20 - 13:50
Lunch	12:50 - 13:20	13:20 - 13:50	12:20 - 12:50	13:20 - 13:50	12:20 - 12:50
Period 6	13:50 - 14:40	13:50 - 14:40	13:50 - 14:40	13:50 - 14:40	13:50 - 14:40
Tutor	14:40 - 15:00	14:40 - 15:00	14:40 - 15:00	14:40 - 15:00	14:40 - 15:00

Pastoral Staffing

We are thrilled to announce that Miss Modupe been promoted to Assistant Principal , which means we have had to recruit to replace her (a very difficult task!). So the pastoral staffing is as follows:

Safeguarding Team



Kate Willis
PRINCIPAL



Gemma Road
STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING
LEAD



Michelle Collins
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING
LEAD AND PREVENT LEAD



Joanne Shipp
ONLINE SAFETY LEAD



Kate Gavin
DEPUTY DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



Tom Griffiths
HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3



Janet Allen
HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



Mari Baird
PASTORAL TEAM LEADER
YEAR 7



Lucy Strawford
PASTORAL TEAM LEADER
YEAR 8



Tom Sillito
PASTORAL TEAM LEADER
YEAR 9



Chris Titterington
PASTORAL TEAM LEADER
YEAR 10



Claire Dutton
PASTORAL TEAM LEADER
YEAR 11



Charlotte Crew
STUDENT SUPPORT LEADER
YEAR 7



Helen Small
STUDENT SUPPORT LEADER
YEAR 8



Vickie Muir
STUDENT SUPPORT LEADER
YEAR 9



Lorene Archibald
STUDENT SUPPORT LEADER
YEAR 10



Simon Horn
STUDENT SUPPORT LEADER
YEAR 11

**All Teachers, Support Staff
and Professional Services**

New Staff Joining us in 2025/26



Andy Buck
Assistant Principal



Katie Davies
Maths Teacher



Silas Allen
History Teacher



Tom Griffiths
Head of KS3

We congratulate Adam James who is our new History Teacher, and welcome back Simon Horn, as the Student Support Leader of Year 11



Adam James
History Teacher



Simon Horn
SSL Year 11

Changes for 2025/26: Period 1 and the 5 Minute Rule

Our students' punctuality to each lesson is excellent, clearly they really value their lessons, and our '5 minute rule' helps support this.

At the start of the day, the bell rings at 8:35 to remind students to go to lessons which start at 8:40. **Then** we start the '5 minute rule', which in reality means lessons do not start until 8:45, meaning period 1 is only 45 minutes long (not 50), when some students have been ready outside their classroom from 8:35 - in effect we have a '10 minute rule' for period 1.

So from September, the '5 minute rule' will start 8:35, if a student arrives at school after 8:40, they will be late and will need to attend the SLR for the remainder of that period.

Changes for 2025/26: Uniform

We get lots of questions about uniform, especially shoes. So please do look at the website to which has the full uniform list, and lots of images of shoes!

We have had lots of donations of pre-loved uniform over the summer. This is available from reception. It is free for students in receipt of Free School Meals and at a very reduced price for everyone else.

Can we remind families to name their uniform, an awful lot of un-named uniform ends up in lost property.

Uniform

Tie*	JCA clip-on tie.
Jumper*	Dark blue, v-neck, with blue piping at the neck.
Trousers	Black tailored trousers with a crease, reaching to the ankle. Must not be skintight. Jeans, leggings or other fashion styles are not permitted.
Shirt	White, long or short sleeve, buttoning to the neck to be worn with a tie.
Tights	Black, grey or neutral.
Socks	White, black, grey or neutral.
School shoes	Black, leather, substantial (not trainers, daps or boots). See guidance below on acceptable styles of shoe.



Shoes for Boys and Girls

Shoes must be plain black and can have laces, be slip-on or have a Velcro strap. A brief sample of acceptable shoe styles is shown here. These styles are advertised for sale as boys' and girls' shoes. Trainers, sport shoes, plimsolls or pumps are **not** acceptable, **neither** are boots **nor** shoes with high heels.

Shoes (sold in shops as suitable for boys)

Examples of acceptable styles:



Shoes (sold in shops as suitable for girls)

Examples of acceptable styles:



Unacceptable Styles



The above trainers/pumps/plimsolls are not acceptable footwear for school for boys or girls.

Changes for 2025/26: Hijabs, Bonnets, Durags and Hair Colour

Some time ago, our students approached me to explain that we were not fully enforcing all aspects of this bit of our uniform policy, which they felt was unfair. The relevant sections are below:

Hijabs & Head Scarves	White, black, blue or grey if worn.
Durags, Bonnets & Head wraps	White, black, blue or grey if worn.

Hair – No ornaments such as flowers, bows, elaborate hair bands, etc. Extreme hair colours are not permitted.

Across terms 5 & 6, we have done lots of messaging with students to remind them of our uniform policy on this, ready for September.

If a child has an extreme hair colour (e.g. bright green), we will contact you to agree a suitable date it has

been dyed back/braids removed and they will be issued a pass for this time. If it is not changed by that date, they will need to attend the SLR.

We have lots of spare black hijabs for students.

Equipment

Below is the minimum requirement of the equipment students should have. Many students choose to carry additional items.

- Water Bottle
- Black or blue ballpoint pen x 2
- Pencil
- Pencil sharpener
- Pencil eraser
- Ruler
- Maths set
- Scientific calculator

Pens and Calculators can be bought by students from the finance office during the day.

Changes for 2025/26: Bringing the Academy into Disrepute

We have had an unfortunate rise in complaints from the local community about the behaviour of our students. This has included racist graffiti, kicking doors and smashing glass bottles in front of cars. It is the actions of a very small number of our students but it is really damaging the reputation of our school.

We have updated our Behaviour policy to include a section on anti-social behaviour, with escalating sanctions for students who repeat this behaviour.

Attendance Information for Parents and Carers

The first day and week of term are very important in helping pupils to settle into school and the school routine. From looking at our trust data, we know that children who attend every day during the first week

of term are more likely to attend well over the year. They are also better settled into the changes that happen in new academic years, and therefore more readily able to access learning than those who miss out.

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.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 and returning year groups back to the academy in September - thank you in advance for your support in ensuring your child returns to school on the first day of term.

Support for your child in school

Please remember that we are here to help in any way we can. If you have any concerns about your child that you wish to discuss with us, please do get in touch. If we cannot help directly, we will work with you to help you find other support.

Arriving at school on time

Arriving at school on time is not only essential for pupils' learning, it encourages habits of good timekeeping and lessens any classroom disruption. Late arrival means pupils risk missing important information which can seriously disadvantage them. Attending on time every day also helps pupils form good habits which can stay with them throughout their education and on into the workplace.

Pupils can arrive from 8.20 am

- All pupils are expected to arrive at school in good time for the start of the school day at 8.40
- If a pupil arrives at school after 8.40 they will be marked in the register as late.

Staff may ask to meet with parents/carers of pupils who arrive late to school, to discuss reasons for lateness and solutions.

Illness

Pupils should attend school every day the school is open, unless they are really not well enough. Minor illness should not be a reason for staying at home. If your child attends school when feeling slightly under the weather, do let a member of staff know and we will monitor them and contact you if we think they need to go home.

If your child is too ill to attend, please call the attendance line on 0117 976 3000 / Option 2 / Option 2 before 8:30am to let us know. You can also email the academy at jcastudentabsence@clf.uk

Please clearly explain the symptoms your child has, when the symptoms started, and when you expect your child to be well enough to return to school.

If your child is ill for more than one day, you will need to contact the academy on each morning of the absence, unless otherwise agreed. By law, schools must record all pupil absences and whether the absence is authorised or unauthorised.

Medical and dental appointments

Please try to avoid medical and dental appointments in school time. If this is unavoidable, arrange appointments so the minimum school time is lost. Unless it is an emergency appointment, parents/carers are expected to let the academy know about the appointment in advance, with evidence of the

appointment. Your child should still attend school for as much of the school day as possible.

Absence follow up

The academy will follow up any pupil absences where the parent/carer has not contacted us to explain why, or where we are unclear about the reason for absence.

If you don't tell us the reason for your child's absence, it will be recorded as unauthorised. Where the academy has cause for concern about the actual reason for a pupil's absence, staff may seek more information or evidence from parents/carers, and/or make a home visit to check the reason. Unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice or prosecution.

Further information For more information, please have a look at the attendance section of the website, [here](#).

If you have any further attendance related questions, please contact Celia Corrigan – celia.corrigan@clf.uk
Our full school attendance policy can be found [here](#).