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### Key Dates

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20 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Term 5
27 <sup>th</sup> April	Great Big Dance Off
27 <sup>th</sup> April – 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	GCSE Exams (First Written Papers 7 <sup>th</sup> May)
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 8 Intercommunity
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 7 Intercommunity
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 9 Intercommunity
20 <sup>th</sup> May	CLF Big Kick Off
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Last day of Term 5
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Start of Term 6

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### *Principal's Message – Keeping Children Safe Outside of School*

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We would like to remind families of the importance of knowing where their children are, who they are with, and what they may be doing outside of school hours.

At certain times, local gatherings or events may take place that are not appropriate for children and young people and can involve increased safeguarding risks, including exposure to unsafe behaviours, reduced supervision, or contact with unknown adults. Children may not always recognise these risks.

Please support us by having regular conversations with your child about staying safe, making positive choices, and attending school as normal unless unavoidable.

If you have any concerns or would like further advice, please contact the Academy.

Kind regards

Gemma Read  
**Head of School**

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### *Routine – Fire Drills*

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At JCA, we have well established procedures to ensure our students and staff are safe in the event of an unexpected event. We respond to the fire alarm with the same routine each time; we do this as, although actual danger is rare in schools, we know that routines and practice help our students to feel safe and supported. Last week we held a planned fire alarm. We know our students still need to work on being silent as they move. Please support us by reminding your child of the following expectations:

**Fire regulations:** At JCA, the fire alarm is a continuous siren.

At the sound of a continuous alarm, staff and students will:

- exit classrooms, leaving the building by the nearest fire exit quickly and in silence.
- Should it not put staff at risk, staff will close (but not lock) windows and doors.
- **Whilst in silence**, all staff and students move in an orderly fashion and assemble on the large astro, where they line up in their tutor groups.
- Students and staff with physical impairments and LSAs should meet on the hard court at the back of the dining hall unless other arrangements have been previously agreed.
- All staff, students and visitors stand in silence until the Principal or designated representative gives permission to re-enter the building.

We are aware that, at the time of our planned fire alarm, there was an incident in the local community which caused some concern to parents as several nearby schools were placed into lockdown as a precaution on police advice. After the end of the school day on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, when staff at JCA became aware of the local incident, we contacted Avon and Somerset police who confirmed with us that JCA was not affected, and our school did not need to take any additional action. At this time, we have no further information to share.

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### *JCA Routine – Equipment and Jewellery*

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At JCA we expect all students to arrive in lessons with the following equipment:

- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Scientific Calculator

Half term is a great time to rest and spend time as a family, as well as a good opportunity to make sure that students have the equipment they need for learning. If you need any support with equipment do reach out to us.

Across Term 4, after consulting with all stakeholders in the community, we shared our expectations regarding jewellery at JCA:

#### Jewellery update

For reasons of safety and security, only the following items are permitted:

- Earrings (small studs only).
- A nose piercing (single stud).
- No other facial piercings are permitted.
- A watch.
- Discreet necklaces and bracelets may be worn, but must remain **under the uniform**.
- Rings are not permitted.

#### Jewellery in PE lessons

- All children must remove watches, bracelets and necklaces to participate in PE lessons.
- Children are responsible for their own jewellery if removed in school (we cannot take responsibility for any personal items).
- Children will be permitted to tape earrings/nose studs.

These expectations will be followed from the start of Term 5 and we thank you for your support in helping your child(ren) with these changes.

Kind regards

Andrew Buck

## Vice Principal

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### *Spanish GCSE*

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Dear parents/carers

Your child's Spanish Speaking GCSE exam is coming up soon on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

For the next 2 weeks leading up to the exam, they are invited to take part in drop-in revision sessions each day after school in AF1 from 3pm - 4pm. We strongly encourage everyone to make the most of this opportunity and ensure they are practising speaking Spanish for 10-15 mins every day until their exam.

Gracias

Celia Corrigan  
**Head of MFL**

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### *Neurodiversity Hub Support*

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## **Welcome to Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire's neurodiversity hub**

This website is published by **Healthier Together**, the integrated care system for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. It offers information to support local neurodivergent people, with a particular focus on autism and ADHD. Every neurodivergent person is unique. Some may need support to help them fulfil their potential or cope with certain challenges, others may not. Support is available in lots of different ways if you need it, and you don't always need a clinical diagnosis to access it.

<https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/neurodiversity/support/children/>.

<https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/neurodiversity/support/youth/>

<https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/neurodiversity/support/adults/>

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*FLORA Drop In*

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 **Bristol's SEND  
Local Offer**



# FLORA

**(Families, Local Offer, Resources and Advice)**



## Unsure where to get support?

FLORA is an enquiry service that provides information, advice, signposting and support for Bristol families who are in the early stages of identifying that their child may have additional needs.

The FLORA team helps families navigate the services and support available to them in Bristol

**FLORA will be joining Sarah, Family Hub Navigator  
at Wellspring Settlement on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April,  
2026. 11am - 1pm**

**Email: [FLORA@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:FLORA@bristol.gov.uk)**



Local Offer: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/web/bristol-local-offer/advice-and-support-for-parents-and-carers>

*New Clubs and Groups*

## LGBTQ+ CHAMPIONS

**BF5 - MONDAY - TUTOR TIME**

**What:** Please come along and sign up to our LGBTQ+ club. and help relaunch our welcoming group, fostering pride and support across our school and beyond.

**Who:** Open to all, including our allies.

**When and Where:** Weekly, Tutor Time, Monday, BF5

**Why:** We want to create a safe and welcoming space for everyone, to share their thoughts and ideas about how to make our lovely school even more inclusive.

*Miss Shipp*



**What:** Please come along and sign up to our **Young Carers Club** and help relaunch our welcoming group.


**Who:** For anyone who has a **caring role** for any member of their household and **those affected**.

**When and Where:** Weekly, Tutor Time, Tuesday, BF5


**Why:** We want to create a safe and welcoming space for students, to share their thoughts and ideas about how to make life at home that little bit easier.

## YOUNG CARERS CHAMPIONS

**BF5 - TUESDAY -  
TUTOR TIME**



## FEMpower Champions



**BF5 - WEDNESDAY - Tutor time**

**What:** A safe space to relaunched our **Fempower Group**.

**Who:** For anyone who wants to support young women to feel empowered at school an in every aspect of life.

**Why:** To share expertise and knowledge  
Amplify voices  
Celebrate achievements  
Provide support and feedback  
Advocacy and allyship

**When and Where:**  
Weekly, Tutor Time, Wednesday, BF5

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### *Meningitis: Year 9 Meningococcal Vaccine*

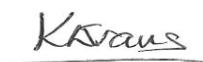
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Following news reports of a number of meningitis cases in Kent, which has resulted in 2 deaths, Public Health are reminding all parents and students of the importance of Meningitis vaccination. MenACWY is routinely offered to all students during Year 9. We encourage all parents to respond to the invitation and consent process, which will come from the school age immunisation service, Sirona, in the coming weeks.

We are offering your Year 9 child a free Meningococcal ACWY vaccine and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccination in school this year. Please complete the consent form as soon as possible. <https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/dtp/2025/consent?v=2>

#### **Questions?**

Contact the School Immunisation Team: 0300 124 5515 or email [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net)

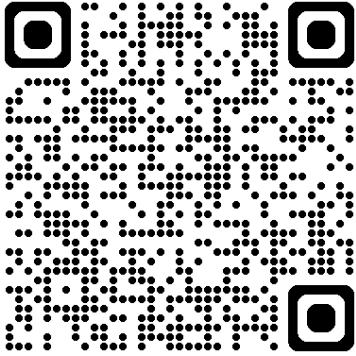


Yours sincerely

Karen Evans  
Associate Director of Children's Services

Sirona

QR code link to consent form



Kind Regards,  
**BCC Health Protection Duty Desk Team**