

Ofsted Visit Feedback



Following the recent visit to our Academy from Ofsted, we have received a letter sent on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills, confirming the findings from the visit on 9 June 2017.

During the visit, Her Majesty's Inspectors (Mr Andrew Lovett and Mr Karl Sampson) met with the Principal, senior leaders, executive officers of the Cabot Learning Federation, Academy Council members and Trustees to discuss the actions taken since the previous inspection. Inspectors also visited lessons to determine the quality of students' work and to talk to students. Additionally, student performance data was scrutinised, as were our current development plans.

At the end of the monitoring inspection, the inspectors judged that "senior leaders and those responsible for governance are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection in order to become a good school."

Ofsted also judged that we should:

"...take further action to:

- embed recent changes to the school's new feedback policy so that all pupils understand how to improve their work;
- embed recently introduced strategies that support the learning of disadvantaged pupils so that they are able to make progress in line with other pupils nationally;
- further develop the process for monitoring the quality of teaching so that a greater emphasis is placed on the progress that pupils are making over time."

In his letter to the Principal, Mr Lovett went on to say:

"You have made good strides in improving the quality of provision and leadership across the school since taking up your appointment in September 2016. You have communicated a clear vision to staff and pupils and have raised expectations of what each can achieve. You have made clear the importance of simultaneously raising standards for Year 11 and embedding a culture of high expectations across the school for the long term. Your senior staff have responded well to the challenges you have set.

... Leaders at all levels understand the school's priorities and their role in carrying out the plans successfully.

Leaders and governors recognise that a focus on raising standards and improving achievement is essential if the school is to be judged as a good school at the next section 5 inspection."

Mr Lovett continued, "There is emerging evidence that teachers' work to improve teaching and learning across departments is having a positive effect on the engagement and progress of pupils...

The school's work with teachers in supporting disadvantaged pupils is also taking effect... [the] senior team ... reacted promptly and effectively to the behaviour and attendance issues which were highlighted in the previous inspection report ... As a result, attendance is now rising ...

... Good work has been done with staff and pupils to agree on expectations of behaviour and these are having an impact. As a result of your work this year, the number of pupils excluded for poor behaviour has fallen ... In our visits to classrooms we saw strong relationships between teachers and pupils and we saw no instances of poor behaviour."

When commenting on the Sixth Form, Mr Lovett noted that: "... strong and clear leadership is ensuring the priorities for improvement of the school and those of the learning federation's sixth form are aligned and all staff are clear about their roles."

Mr Lovett's view on governance noted that it had "been strengthened" and that "Directors and councillors recognise and accept the issues raised in the [previous] report and are holding leaders to account for the improvements required."

In concluding, he acknowledged that "support provided by the Cabot Learning Federation (CLF) to the school has been a significant factor in the school's effective response to the previous inspection report."

It is, of course, pleasing to receive this feedback but we still have work to do to ensure that every student behaves, attends and achieves as we would want to see. We would want to thank parents for their ongoing support during the course of the year as we work together to ensure that all students leave JCA ready and qualified to make the most of and contribute positively to 21st century life. Parental support has been a significant factor in the progress we have made and we would all hope that this will continue into the 2017/18 school year.

Uniform

In order to further support parents/carers as we transition to our new uniform in September, we will be offering the opportunity for parents to come to school between the hours of 3.30 - 4.30pm (Monday - Thursday) from next week until the end of Term 6. Please come to reception at this time if you would like to try on uniform to gauge sizes.



Please also find attached a letter illustrating the new uniform and details of how to purchase it as well as guidance on acceptable styles of trousers and shoes. As parent/carers would expect, we will be ensuring that our uniform is worn correctly in the new school year for all of our students in all year groups.

End of Term arrangements

On the final day of term, students will be permitted to wear non uniform to raise money for their Community charities. A suggested donation of £1 should be brought in with students on the day.

During the day, students will be participating in Community Day activities. These are a series of competitions that students compete in within their year groups against the other Communities. The Summer Community Day trophy will be awarded to the Community that amasses the most points during the day.

On the final day, these activities will finish at 12.55pm. All buses will leave the site by 1.10pm. Please can I request that all students are collected by this time or alternative arrangements for them to get home are made. No students should be on site after 1.10pm. Many thanks for your support with this.

Tutor Groups and Student Leadership in 2017/18

In 2017/18, Year 7 students will be joining the current Y8-Y11 tutor groups. This provides a true vertical tutoring experience for all students and the opportunity to learn from others, empathise, and share experiences. It will also provide the opportunity to launch a student buddy programme as part of the TG system. There will be eight Tutor Groups within each Community, which means that between now and the end of term there will be some restructuring of the current tutor groups.

Assemblies will be taking place across weeks 4 and 5, outlining the changes to the tutor provision. Students will be able to make requests to stay with specific students, tutors, or move TGs. Where possible, we will try to accommodate requests whilst balancing these with the wider needs of the Community.

There are many students in Y9 and Y10 who have put themselves forward to be a part of a student leadership programme which is fantastic; this will see them acting as buddies for the new Y7 students in September 2017. This programme will be expanded, with leadership opportunities for mentoring and reading buddies as we progress through the year.

Timeline:

- Student requests to HoCs by 9am on 6 July.
- Letters will be sent home to all students on 13/14 July.
- All students will have introductory TG sessions on 17 or 18 July depending on their Community

‘First Story’ Anthology Launch

We are delighted to invite parents/carers and friends of students who took part in the 'First Story Project' to the launch of their fabulous Anthology: 'I'MPOSSIBLE'. The launch will take place in the Main Hall from 6.00pm – 7.00pm, on Tuesday 4 July, and will be a fantastic opportunity to share in the achievements and creativity of your loved ones.

Ellie Watson, from the 'First Story' project, will be there to introduce the project and its aims; followed by a chance to meet the published author, and writer in residence, C J Flood. Students will also read their amazing poems and stories and share their 'First Story' journey with you. Finally, you'll get a chance to take home two free copies of this incredible Anthology for posterity.

Letters have been sent home detailing the event and students have been issued tickets to give to those they would like to invite. Please ensure that you bring a ticket with you on the evening to secure entrance to the event - we are unable to allow entrance to anyone without a ticket.

Where possible, 'First Story' students are also invited to stay in school (with me) after the school day on Tuesday to run through the evening and prepare to greet their guests. If you are happy for your child to do this, please email your consent using the email address below. Students who stay in school with me must have permission and should report to me in AG2 at 3.10pm so they are supervised at all times. If you have any queries/ requests regarding the event, please do email me at: claire.hibberd@jca.cabot.ac.uk

We look forward to seeing you all there!

SnapChat

Last week SnapChat, used regularly by many children and young people, launched a new feature. SnapMaps allows users to see the location of their contacts. This feature allows others to accurately pinpoint where you are. There are three possible privacy settings:

- Ghost mode, where only you can see your position;
- My Friends mode, where any contact can see your location; and
- Select Friends mode, just those who you choose can see you.



ChildNet have posted a thorough explanation of SnapMaps and how to ensure users stay safe. Please click the link below to read more about keeping yourself and your children safe whilst using the app.

<http://www.childnet.com/blog/introducing-snap-maps-the-new-location-sharing-feature-in-snapchat>

NHS Careers Evening

We have received some information about a North Bristol NHS Careers event, which may be of interest. A summary is below but please also click on the flyer for more details.

North Bristol NHS Trust Careers Event
Tuesday 18 July 2017 from 5.30pm – 8.00pm
at the Learning and Research Centre,
North Bristol NHS Trust, Southmead Hospital.

There are over 250 different roles in the NHS, including jobs as caterers, housekeepers, nurses, porters, electricians, plumbers, surgeons, healthcare support workers, dieticians, physio and occupational therapists, doctors, scientists, etc.

There will also be experts available to talk to you about current vacancies and how to apply. There will be course leaders, trainers and experts on hand to provide you with information about:

Joining the hospital
Apprenticeships
Traineeships
Support worker roles
Careers in nursing, midwifery, medicine and more
Work experience / observation days
Continuing Professional Development

[NHS Careers Evening Flyer](#)

Year 8 Road Safety Presentation

All Year 8 students will be receiving a Road Safety Presentation (Ghost Street) by representatives of South Glos Council in the Main Hall on Thursday 6 July, during period 4.

Dates for the Diary

Below are a number of key dates into the near future that parents may wish to be aware of:

Years	Event
All years	Sports Day, Wednesday 5 July CLF Inset Day, Friday 7 July – all CLF academies closed Learning 4 Life, Monday 17 July, pds 1/2 Term 6 ends, Friday 21 July – Community Day
Year 7	Y7 Drama Festival, Tuesday 18 July
Year 8	Road Safety Presentation, Thursday 6 July, pd 4 Y8 Drama Festival, Monday 17 July
Year 9	
Year 10	Y10 Geography Field Trip, 12 – 15 July Y10 Geography Field Trip, 17 – 19 July
Year 11	
Sixth Form	

Achievement, Rewards & Recognition

Achievement Points: Top 10 Students

The following students scored the most achievement points this week. They have consistently worked hard in and out of lessons and made excellent progress throughout Term 6. Well Done!

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| 1. Aneesah Ikram | 6. Will Bessex |
| 2. Dominic Manley | 7. Libby George |
| 3. Layla Harris | 8. Angel Coles-Weber |
| 4. Alexander Garde | 9. Lucy Hughes |
| 5. Rayan Hassan | 10. George Tutton |

Lesson Scores: Top 10 Students

The following students scored the highest lesson scores this week. They demonstrated a strong interest in their learning and made significant progress in lessons by behaving in a way that promotes effective learning. Keep up the good work!

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Jessica Swanepoel | 6. Molly Monelle |
| 2. Carys Hylton | 7. Scarlett Hutton |
| 3. Louis Horne | 8. Muna Saleebaan |
| 4. Emily Willett | 9. Amelia Payne |
| 5. Jacob Brown | 10. George Tutton |

Uniform Sizing

Parents will be aware that our current students are coming down on a rota basis to try on the new uniform for sizing purposes. This will be done in the following order:

Jupiter:	week commencing Monday 26 June
Mercury:	week commencing Monday 3 July
Neptune:	week commencing Monday 10 July
Saturn:	week commencing Monday 17 July

The uniform suppliers, Trutex, have assured us that orders placed by the end of the first week in August will be delivered in time for the new school year.

Year 7 South Glos Schools Rounders Tournament

On Wednesday 21 June, the John Cabot Year 7 girls played their first rounders tournament. We played against three schools at SBL. Our first match was played against SBL. We started off fielding and did very well. Then, it was our turn to bat. We all had our go and got 3 ½ whole rounders. The final score was 3 ½ to 1.

Our second match was against Mangotsfield School. We started off fielding again and played at our best. Next, it was our turn to bat where we came out with 5½ rounders. The ending score was very close but we managed to win it by half a rounder. When it came to our third match, we played Hanham Woods Academy. Unfortunately, we lost by 1½ rounders but it was good game. Hanham played extremely well and so did we. Overall we finished in 2nd position which we were really proud of. Well done Year 7 girls rounders team! And well done Kayla Aldom for being our captain.



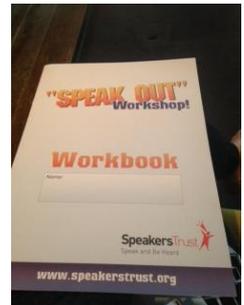
Future Quest Project

The final few Future Quest sessions have taken place during this term. Below is a snapshot of what our Y9 and Y10 students have been involved in.

Y9 Bordeaux Quay visit

On 12 June, 15 students from Year 9 attended a "Speak Out Workshop", at Bordeaux Quay, Bristol Harbourside. The aim of the day was to empower the students to speaking publicly with clarity and from the heart. Components of the day included:

- Speaking with confidence and clarity, using your voice for impact
- Thinking on your feet – impromptu speaking
- Structuring a speech of their your topic
- Enjoying public speaking in a day of fun games and exercises
- Understanding and to use body language to emphasise your words
- Receiving group and individual feedback given by an expert trainer throughout the day
- And, of course, how to learn to listen to others.



Y9 Clifton Suspension Bridge visit

On 28 June, 15 Year 9 students attended a Clifton Suspension Bridge Vaults Tour. This was 2 hour tour experience, which began at the Clifton Toll Booth on the Bristol side of the bridge. During the tour, students learnt about the construction and discovery of the huge red brick abutments that support the bridge towers, before donning a hard hat and high vis jackets and then exploring two of the twelve vaulted chambers inside the Leigh Woods abutment. Back in the visitor centre, students then had a go at their own bridge building challenge, followed by a bridge tour.



At the end of this week, we received an email message following the visit, which said:
“I just wanted to say how great your students were at the visit yesterday. Despite the weather, they were fully engaged asking questions and getting really stuck into the bridge building exercise. The leaders at the bridge also commented to me what a pleasure they were.

I look forward to working with them next academic year.”

Well done to all those students who took part and represented the Academy so well.

Y10 Bristol University visit

On Thursday 8 June, fifteen Year 10 students visited Bristol University. Sessions included Study Skills, a campus tour and an effective debate workshop requiring students to develop and improve on skills important in many aspects of life, such as: teamwork, critical thinking, persuasion, considering alternative points, constructive criticism and analytical skills.



Diversity Festival

The Creative Youth Network (based within the Kingswood Foundation) are holding a Diversity Festival on Saturday 15 July 2017.

The festival is organised in conjunction with ‘Kingsmeadow Community Flat’ and ‘Twin Wave’ in a bid to unite the local communities and have a fun day out. There are many stalls and performances booked in for the day, along with kids activities and caterers. Please see the flyer below for more details.

[Diversity Festival Flyer](#)

Lost Property

Due to space constraints, we are changing our system for dealing with lost property. From now on:

- Items with students' names in will be returned to them.
- Valuables including waterproof/winter coats will be kept until the end of term, then sent to charity.
- Other lost items will be kept in student reception for *one week*, then recycled or thrown away.

We currently have approx. 30 high quality and expensive, premium branded winter coats in lost property. If your child has lost theirs, please encourage them to come and have a look. Or you can telephone the school and ask to speak to Miss Skuse in student reception with a description and she will see if she can find a match.

Best wishes

Mr S White
Principal

