City of Birmingham School: Management Committee
Instead of Governing Bodies COBS has a Management Committee that works closely with our Centres. Members include staff, Head Teachers, people from the Local Authority and also the Community. The Committee holds regular meetings and to find out more please contact Sunil Vyakaranam on 0121 464 3510.

Safeguarding our Staff and Pupils.
All of our pupils are expected to place all items that are not needed in their lessons or during the school day in their lockers as they enter the building. If we think a pupil may have a ‘prohibited item’ then we are allowed to search them or their belongings. On occasions we will use an electronic metal detector as our pupils enter their Centre.
If pupils bring weapons or other objects that are clearly intended for use as weapons then we will always inform the police.

Supporting your Child’s learning at home
If you are wondering how you can help you could try to:
- Put aside some quality time to spend with your child each day to talk about what they’ve learned.
- Encourage your child to read by sharing books, newspapers or magazines together.
- Improve your child’s maths by using numbers together, for example, at the supermarket.

DIARY DATES

Spring Term 2019
Term Starts: Monday 7th January 2019
Half Term: Monday 18th February 2019 to Friday 22nd February 2019
Term Ends: Friday 12th April 2019

Teacher Training Days
Friday 8th February 2019
Monday 1st April 2019

Summer Term 2019
Term Starts: Monday 29th April 2019
Half Term: Monday 27th May 2019 to Friday 31st May 2019
Term Ends: Friday 19th July 2019

As we approach the Christmas holiday, we can reflect on another excellent term at the Link Centre. The Autumn term has once again seen our attendance stay above national average for schools in a similar setting to ourselves. I would like to say a huge thank you to all our parents and carers for their continued support with our attendance. The Autumn term has seen the launch of our new GCSE and BTEC courses. This has been another positive move for our pupils and school. Pupils now have the opportunity to obtain six recognised qualifications that will potentially get them into college. Recently, in preparation for sitting their actual GCSEs in the summer, our year 11 pupils have also successfully completed their mock GCSE exams. It was also really nice to see so many of our parents attend the recent Parent’s evening at Link. It proved to be an excellent opportunity for staff and parents/carers to discuss the progress of individual pupils and the next steps that are needed to support them with their continued progress. Amongst other things, pupils have been to the German Market, Skiing, Go Karting and been part of the ‘Fit4life’ project. In addition, we have also started parent workshops (to support parents on things like online safety). We are really pleased to see so many of our young people return back to mainstream schools, following a successful time at Link. We look forward to supporting more of our pupils on their journey’s back into school or alternative provision. Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you on day to day basis but also at our parent’s evenings and parent workshops. Have restful and enjoyable break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mr S Vyakaranam

Attendance and Punctuality
If your child is absent, please contact the Centre as early as possible to let us know why they are away. It is very important that pupils have good attendance levels and are punctual. We hope that all pupils reach at least 90% attendance.

Head of Centre: Mr S Vyakaranam
A traditional Christmas dinner was cooked by the female pupils and Ms Freer and devoured by all at the end of term. The cooks followed the recipes diligently and rustled up chocolate fudge cake for pudding whilst listening to Christmas music.

All pupils and teachers indulged in their Christmas dinner, getting into the Christmas spirit before breaking up for the Christmas holidays.

Blue group enjoyed a day out at the German Christmas market as part of their Enrichment programme.

Firstly, the students looked around the Hall of Memory for soldiers who had died in the First World War and walked the stretch of the German market.

Finally, the students enjoyed small pancakes with melted chocolate and strawberries.

As a reward trip, twenty pupils visited the go karting race track in Halesowen. Pupils enjoyed their session for the afternoon on the full throttle race track with one of the largest flyovers in the country and longest indoor tunnel for their good behaviour and work during the Autumn term at the Link Centre.

Some of our pupils had the chance to go to the Skills Show at the NEC.

The Skills Show is the nations largest skills and careers event that helps shape and enable progress for the future of the next generation.

The Skills Show event provides ‘Have a Go’ experiences that inspire young people to explore careers and motivates them to find out more about the world of work. The pupils had the chance to dress up in ideal work clothes and practice using the equipment they may use.