

May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Admissions September 2021

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you and your child to Queen Elizabeth High School in September 2021. We value our partnership with parents and we believe that an early introduction to the school will play an important part in creating a positive beginning for you and your child. More detailed information beyond the contents of this letter will follow shortly.

School Admissions Forms

In order to help with our planning, please could you complete the school admissions forms for your son/daughter, including the parent and student consents. Please try to do this by **Friday 4 June 2021**. The admissions policies and forms are available to complete online – please access them via this [link](#).

School Uniform

Year 9 students joining us in September will wear our new uniform, which can be purchased from Michael Sehgal & Sons online. Details of the items available can be seen in the attached 'Admissions Information' booklet and online at this [link](#) see pages 10-14. In addition to school-specific items, we have identified general lines from Sehgal's that meet our uniform policy and we would encourage parents/carers to buy all uniform items here. However, parents/carers have the flexibility to buy trousers, shirts and skirts from other retailers, provided they meet the requirements of our policy.

Please note that due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, Sehgal's uniform shop in Newcastle is currently closed to the public and all orders must be made [online](#) and dispatched by post. To help families in the current situation, Sehgal's are providing free delivery on orders placed in May and June 2021 where the discount code FREEDELIVERY21 is entered at the checkout.

If items are unavailable, the Sehgal's sales team will get in touch to advise you. Should you have any queries regarding sizing and availability, please contact them directly by email: sales@michaelsehgal.co.uk

Transfer Day and Transition Information

We are committed to ensuring that your child makes a positive start to the high school years. To support this, members of staff have already started to meet with middle school colleagues to get to know the children joining us, and will continue this over the coming term.

In addition, we hope to operate the usual transfer day in July where your child will have the opportunity to visit us at QE. However, ongoing COVID-19 restrictions which limit the mixing of school bubbles mean that planning our usual transfer activities has been more of a challenge this year and there remains a level of uncertainty. As such there is a Plan A – the intended approach if circumstances allow, and Plan B – the contingency plan if Plan A cannot happen. This approach is aligned with the

other schools in the Hexham Partnership who have agreed a consistent position to ensure that all children get a similar experience. We will confirm plans in light of the next COVID-19 guidance on 21 June 2021.

Plan A

If COVID-19 restrictions are eased to allow school bubbles to mix, we will be able to operate our usual transfer day activities:

- **Tuesday 6 July:** Transfer Day – an opportunity for students to spend a day with us meeting their new tutor and taking part in a range of activities designed to help them become familiar with their new school.
- **Thursday 8 July:** Parents' Information Evening – an opportunity for you to join us to hear more about various aspects of school life and more information about our new school site.

Plan B

If restrictions on school bubbles are not eased, we will plan the following transfer events:

- A 'virtual' transfer day whereby our website will be updated with video tours, staff profiles and transition activities for the children to enjoy.

We will update you on which of the above will operate once the situation becomes clear.

Beyond this, please contact us if you think your child would benefit from an additional visit to QEHS or if you want to have a more in-depth conversation with a member of our team.

New Build

Good progress continues to be made regarding our new school buildings on the high school site and we remain on track to move into them in September. Students at QE are already benefitting from being able to use the new all-weather 3G pitch along with the six court multi-use games area to the north west of our site, and the feedback from them and the PE staff has been very positive indeed.

Below is the most recent aerial view of the works, which gives you a sense of the progress being made and how things are taking shape.



Having had a recent tour of the facilities myself, I can report a real sense of excitement at how wonderful they will be for our students, staff and wider community. Early in the new academic year, we will create the opportunity for you to come to the school, to meet key staff and to see the new facilities for yourself.

To conclude, further information regarding your child's transition will be sent to you shortly. In the meantime, I would be very grateful if you would complete the online forms by Friday 4 June 2021. If you have any questions about the completion of these, please contact Charlotte Gaines on 01434 610301 or via e-mail at admin@qehs.net.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Atkins', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Graeme Atkins
Executive Headteacher