



Queen Elizabeth High School

spes durat avorum

19 July 2024

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 39

Dear Parent/Carer

The end of the school year beckons, and we are all looking forward to the summer and lots of sunshine (hopefully). It has been another excellent year at the high school with our students achieving well, participating in a wide range of activities and the quality of our provision being endorsed by Ofsted. This is a truly lovely to school to work in with incredibly committed staff and students who are a pleasure to teach. We wish our students, staff and families a restful summer break.

We say goodbye to a number of staff today. Mr Manns, Mr Jones and Ms Jeffrey are all retiring. Ms Dale, Ms J Fraser, Mr Olatunji and Ms Ballantyne are all moving to new roles. Mr Seago and Ms Bevan will be with us next year but are stepping down from their roles as curriculum leader. We thank all of them for their service to the school and wish them well.

Term starts for our new Y9 students and for Y13 on Wednesday 4 September. The welcome to sixth form day for Y12 is on Thursday 5 September and we welcome Y10 and Y11 back that day too.

Houses

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new house system from September 2024. In many schools, houses are a huge part of developing student identity within the school community. Whilst our students are supported pastorally through our year group system, we want to develop more channels for them to mix with other students and engage more widely with the school community.

From September all students and staff will be allocated (at random by the sorting hat) to one of the following five houses:

Beech	Sycamore	Oak	Ash	Birch
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Over the course of the next academic year, we look forward to developing this system with lots of opportunities for house events and competitions across different areas of the curriculum.

Holly Newton

The trial of the young person involved in Holly's death started this week in Newcastle. The trial will last for a number of weeks over the summer. During that time details of what happened will emerge and be reported in the media. We recognise that this may have an impact on the community. Northumberland County Council have advised on support that is available during the holiday.

Queen Elizabeth High School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

There are online resources available at Kooth <https://www.kooth.com/> that help young people process traumatic events or information. Primary Mental Health have a consultation line that parents and young people themselves can ring if they are feeling concerned with their mental health. their number is 01661 864588. If it is a total emergency then the CYPS crisis line is the best number. Their number is 0303 123 1146.

Fundraising for Holly's Hope

Walk for Holly's Hope is a fundraising initiative in memory of much-missed QE student, Holly. Holly's family and friends have the ambition of buying and fitting emergency Bleed Boxes and Critical Injury Kits in every town across the UK. To raise funds for this, a team will walk the challenging Steel Town 20 route through some of the Derwent Valley, with a total elevation gain of around 1780ft including a long pull up from the river at Blackhall Mill to Consett Rugby Club for the finish. For more details including how to contribute, please visit

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/WalkForHollysHope>

Have Your Say on SEND!

NCC SEND have worked with Northumberland Parent Carer Forum to develop a SEND Survey to hear what parents and carers think the priorities in SEND should be over the next three years. The survey is anonymous, takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and can be accessed through the Local Offer or through this link: [SEND Survey: Planning the future of SEND - Have Your Say Northumberland - Citizen Space](#)

NCC want to hear from as many parents and carers as possible, so please complete this yourself if you have a child with additional needs, or please signpost to as many parents and carers of children with SEND as possible.

Fundraiser Team England ISA SUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

James L, one of our year 13 students has qualified to represent Team England as the only Junior Male in the UK. This is an amazing achievement and he is in line to potentially go to the Olympics in 4 years' time. Unfortunately, the qualification is self-funded. For more details, please click [here](#).



Careers

The July careers newsletter is attached for you!

Unifrog

If you are a parent of a student in Y12, please remind them to complete their review of their placement on Unifrog!

Is your child interested in a career in STEM?

Want to keep them busy doing something worthwhile for 20-30 hours this summer holiday?
Need something brilliant to put on a job or UCAS application in the future?
Then apply for a virtual STEM course to complete this summer!
See details below and flyers attached...

Virtual Routes into STEM Course for Students in Years 9 & 10

- This course is running up until 2nd August and will take students approximately 20 hours to fully complete.
- A fantastic way to explore the different routes into a STEM career, including College Courses, University Courses, Apprenticeships and learning from industry what is involved in a STEM Career as well as enhancing your skills!
- This course is open to all abilities and will include live interactive sessions, allowing students to listen and ask questions to STEM students and professionals.
- Once completed students will receive an Industrial Cadets **Bronze** Award these awards are highly respected in the STEM industry and are the industry equivalent of DofE - Patroned by the King.
- There are fees attached to the courses, but we are **delighted to let you know that fully funded bursary places are available for eligible students e.g. Those who are in receipt of free school meals, Pupil Premium etc. Please note this on your application form.**
- **Link:** [Routes into STEM | EDT \(etrust.org.uk\)](https://www.etrust.org.uk/routes-into-stem) OR scan this QR code:



Virtual Insight into University Course for Students – Years 11,12 & 13

- This course is running up until 23rd August and will take students approximately 30 hours to fully complete.
- This course is a comprehensive virtual experience that allows students to explore STEM studies at University and the Career opportunities that these subjects lead to. It will also provide access to information on University and Student Life, STEM Projects and Activities set by leading UK Universities and Global STEM Companies. Also, First year Undergrad lectures and Live Interactive Lectures with Academics, Admissions Tutors, Employers and current Students!
- Once completed students will receive an Industrial Cadets **Silver** Award these awards are highly respected in the STEM industry and are the industry equivalent of DofE - Patroned by the King.
- **THIS IS AN EXCELLENT COURSE TO INCLUDE IN UCAS AND JOB APPLICATIONS!!!**
- There are fees attached to the courses, but we are delighted to let you know that fully funded bursary places are available for eligible students e.g. Those who are in receipt of free school meals, Pupil Premium etc. Please note this on your application form.
- **Link:** <https://www.etrust.org.uk/insight-into-university> OR scan this QR code:



Sixth Form News

Ski trip

As part of our sixth form enrichment offer, Mrs Curry is looking to organise a ski trip to Italy in January 2026. The trip will run for a week from 10th January 2026 and will include flights from Newcastle Airport.

At this stage we are looking for expressions of interest only from any student currently in Year 11 or 12. The trip can take up to 40 students. If you would like to register your child's interest please fill out this [LINK](#).

The trip cost will be approximately £1300 payable in instalments with a deposit of £150 due by 14th October 2024.

Sixth form bulletin

We have refreshed the Sixth Form bulletin and hope you will find the information easier to navigate. Opportunities and advice for employment, volunteering and university will now be promoted via the website, within the [Sixth Form Noticeboard](#).

We rely on parents 'feeding' opportunities into the students, so if an organisation you are involved with is doing something in the future that a young person may find inspiring please email sixthform@qehs.net. Equally, if you would like to advertise local job opportunities (paid or voluntary) please send the details.

Finally, this year, we have had 143 Year 12 students taking part in work experience recently, which will be life-changing for many of them. If you, or your organisation, might be able to take a sixth form work experience student next year, for a day or more WC 9th June 2025, please contact sixthform@qehs.net.

Michael Sehgal Uniform order deadline 31 July 2024

<https://www.michaelsehgal.co.uk/about-us/announcements/order-by-the-31st-july-deadline-to-be-guaranteed-to-get-everything-in-time-for-sept/>

Free School Meals

If you feel that your child may be eligible for free school meals, please have a read of the criteria and make an application as soon as you can. You can find out more [here](#). To apply, please [complete this form](#) via Northumberland County Council.

PTFA Lottery

The QEHS Lottery is a simple low cost way of supporting the PTFA and the School. Tickets for the lottery are £1 per entry with 2 monthly cash prizes. Entry is simple and online. More information and the online application can be found [here](#) or email qehsprizedraw@gmail.com.



Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 2 September	Teacher Training Day	All year groups
Tuesday 3 September	Teacher Training Day	All year groups
Wednesday 4 September	Induction Day	Year 9
Wednesday 4 September	Year 13 Assembly	Year 13
Thursday 5 September	Induction Day	Year 10, Year 11, Sixth form
Friday 6 September	Extra Curricular Fair	Year 9, Year 10, Year 11
Tuesday 10 September	Welcome to Sixth Form Evening for Parents	Sixth Form

News from the community

Wombles litter pick

Fancy a cleansing Wombling session with a great litter picking group this Saturday?

Next litter pick in Hexham: Saturday 20 July meet at Hewson Court opposite Hexham Hospital at 11am (until 12.30ish).

Also attached:

- Prudhoe Water Safety Day info
- Northumbria Police Vaping info

Yours faithfully



Neil Seaton
Head of School

Pupil support and safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Hattie Curry

Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Emerson Brown, Mr Alex Robson & Mrs Jill Wood.

SENDCo Mrs Jill Wood

Please remember that we are here to support you and your child at any time. You can contact us via the main office (phone) or by email admin@qehs.net

For queries regarding attendance or absence, please email attendance@qehs.net