



10th January 2025

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 16

Happy New Year. I want to wish you and your family the very best for 2025. Our students arrived to for a very icy return to high school. We also issued commendations this week to students in Y10 and Y11 who achieved exemplary attitude to learning grades. The students who received the award demonstrated that they were exceptionally respectful, engaged and aspirational.

Respect

Attendance

Being in school, meeting people and doing activities helps social development and positive mental health. When we review outcomes data there is a clear correlation between attendance and performance. Students make better progress and achieve higher outcomes when they attend. In the newsletter each week I will show you our current attendance data for each year group. Our school target is 95%. We know that some students will struggle to attend school so please speak to their form tutor, Head of Year or Mrs Curry if you have any concerns. We work with families to help students overcome barriers to attending school.

Attendance week (week ending 20 December)

Year group	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	All years
Percentage	93.4	90.1	88.0	91.1

House system

Following feedback from students and staff we have made an adaptation to our house system to link houses to tutor groups. This means that students in the same tutor group will be in the same house. This will make establishing house identity and organising inter house events much easier. We had decided to do this moving forward but agreed the effectiveness of the system would be better if we made the change now. To enable this change we have changed some of house allocations. Students will be informed on Monday.

From Monday the house allocations will be:

Beech House: 9JCA, 9GMS, 10LDB, 11DNS, 11EMB, 10TWJ
 Ash House: 9ANS, 9CEP, 10ACB, 10JEB, 10LAC, 11CSA, 11DAE
 Birch House: 9LCO, 9LAM, 10MEG, 10PHM, 11JIC, 11JOC
 Sycamore House: 9SPD, 9TRR, 10LOR, 10SES, 11MLM, 11SAM, 11SAS
 Oak House: 9KCO, 9MIC, 10SDV, 10YLH, 11KLE, 11MIB

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

Engage

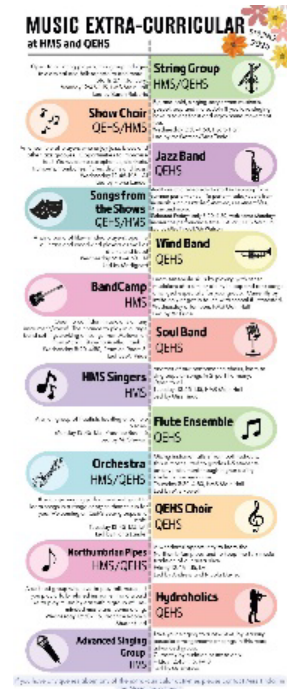
After-School Football with NU Foundation (Y9, Y10 and Y11)

The Newcastle United Foundation After-School Football Club will continue this Spring term to Easter. Timings as before: 15:20h to 16:20h on the 3G and football pitch, boots required. This is an inclusive football club for all abilities and students don't have to commit to the full term but are encouraged to do so. It is a great chance to use the 3G, play matches and have fun. Open to years 9,10 and 11.

Music activities

Take a look at our fantastic extracurricular Music offering for this term, including some brand-new activities! All activities start back next week unless stated otherwise. There are spaces in all groups, so new members are welcome!

Have a look on our website for further information: [here](#)



Aspire

Sixth form option meetings

The sixth form options meetings for our current year 11 students have begun today and run until 21 February. Any student considering our sixth form will require a meeting. Parents can make the appointment via the MCAS app or by telephoning 01434 610312.

Select the following link to view the [sixth form options booklet](#).

Career of the week

This week's Career of the Week was 'Web Designer'. A link to the video shown in tutorial from 'MyPath' is below:

Job of the week: [Web Designer](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fiKIVdh2_JQ&list=PLVEWa7uDT769WGUTc_-IOca4dJRIPatZ&index=92

Further information can be found on [Unifrog](https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/web-designer):
<https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/web-designer>

This includes Labour Market Information (LMI). It is important both parents and students are aware of this as it includes current and predicted figures relating to the profession, particular attention should be paid to the expected growth figure. All students have received a 'Welcome' email to their school email account. Please encourage them to activate their account if they haven't already done so. We also have a 'dummy' code for parents. Use 'QEHHparent' on this page: unifrog.org/code

Apprenticeships information evenings

[Agriculture](#) – Hexham Auction Mart Monday 13th January - 5pm-7pm

QEHS Parent Teacher & Friends Association news

PTFA Prom Pop-up Shop

Last year's Pre-loved Prom Pop-Up Shop, in partnership with Tynedale Hospice at Home, was such a success, with so many students managing to bag themselves stunning Prom outfits at a fraction of the cost of buying new.

The pop-up shop will be returning in early 2025.

If you have any outfits - dresses, suits, shoes, accessories - that you no longer need you can:

Donate them to the PTFA (sale proceeds would go to the PTFA) - please drop outfits off at school, clearly marked as a donation, message us or email qehs.ptfa@gmail.com

OR you can

Sell them through the pop-up shop for a 20% fee taken by the PTFA to support the school by filling in this form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfyEMBMwRgOkOUluWqHbxVd3TIM-I3PPiZtEX6-mDkwoS3Odg/viewform?>

Thank you for your support in helping our students access affordable outfits, whilst also supporting the re-use of clothes and the PTFA's fundraising efforts.

PTFA Lottery

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.



Sixth Form

Mind matters survey

[Survey Form](#)

Mind Matters is a project led by a group of QEHS sixth form students in conjunction with Healthwatch Northumberland. Healthwatch Northumberland is based in Hexham and is your health and social care champion, ensuring your experiences of using local NHS services are heard and help to improve health and social care for everyone.



The QEHS project group will be asking students to complete an anonymous survey in school time, sharing their views and experiences of mental health and mental health support services for young people in our community.

They would also like to hear the views of parents and carers, and would be grateful if you could complete the survey accessed via the QR code and link below. Please note:

- Completing the survey will help the project group to understand what barriers young people face accessing information about what mental health support is available.
- All information you give will remain anonymous.
- Your answers will be reviewed and used to write a report to share with NHS and council leaders.
- Your answers will also help the project group to provide appropriate information about mental health support services available within our locality.

Thank you.

Work experience week

Year 12 students undertake a compulsory week of work experience to give a greater understanding of the world of work in their chosen area and help build links for future employment opportunities. The school will help where possible, but ultimately it is down to students themselves to organise their placement. Work experience week takes place from Monday 9 June to Friday 13 June. Students who haven't already found a placement are encouraged to use <https://www.unifrog.org/placement/guides>.

Sixth form noticeboard

Opportunities and advice for employment, volunteering and university are regularly promoted via the website, within the [Sixth Form Noticeboard](#).

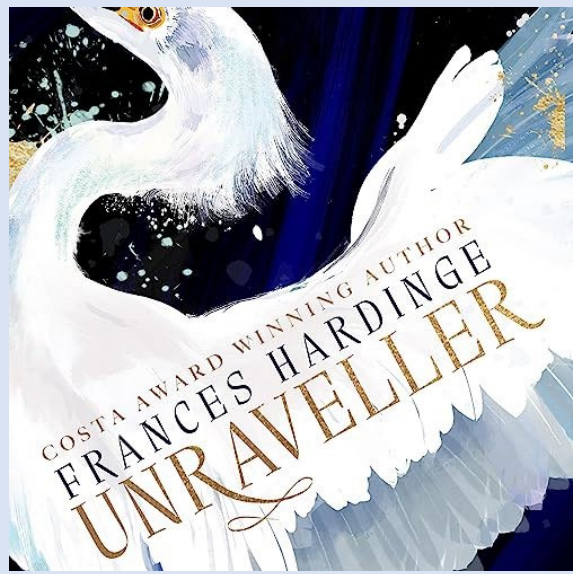
We rely on parents 'feeding' opportunities into the students, so if an organisation you are involved with is doing something in the future that a young person may find inspiring, please email sixthform@qehs.net. Equally, if you would like to advertise local job opportunities (paid or voluntary) please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

LRC Recommended Read

In a world where anyone can create a life-destroying curse, only one person has the power to unravel them.

Kellen does not fully understand his talent, but helps those transformed maliciously - including Nettle. Recovered from entrapment in bird form, she is now his constant companion, and closest ally.

But Kellen has also been cursed, and unless he and Nettle can remove his curse, Kellen is in danger of unravelling everything - and everyone - around him...



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.

News from the community

In our place online learning environment

As ever, we are always looking for ways in which we can support young people and their emotional health and wellbeing. Within Northumberland, we are delighted to link with Inourplace. Inourplace is an online learning environment developed by psychologists and health practitioners providing accessible learning about emotional health and wellbeing, proven to positively impact mental health, behaviour and relationships. All of the courses and content is free to local parents and we would love for many of our parents and carers to take the opportunity to engage with this service.

[January Course Breakdown](#)

[January Course Flyer](#)

[February Course Breakdown](#)

[February Course Flyer](#)

[January February Content Primary](#)

[January February Content Secondary](#)

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Thursday 16 January	Q Band parents' evening 4-7pm	Year 9
Monday 20 January	E Band parents' evening 4-7pm	Year 9
Wednesday 3 February	Parents' evening 4-7pm	Year 12

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