

8 May 2026

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 30

As we move into a significant point in the school calendar, our Year 11 and Year 13 (and some Year 12) students are now undertaking their examinations. This is always a demanding period, and we want to take a moment to recognise the commitment, resilience, and sheer hard work they have shown throughout the year. Whether in the classroom, during revision sessions, or through the countless quiet hours spent studying at home, their efforts have been remarkable.

We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved so far, and we know they will approach the coming weeks with the same determination that has brought them to this point. On behalf of the whole school community, we wish every student the very best as they begin their exams and take these important next steps in their journey.

Respect

Attendance

Year 11 and Year 13 students are expected to attend school up until half term. Study leave begins on 1 June. Up until that point attendance remains a legal requirement and the school cannot authorise absences for students to revise at home. Revision lessons will be taking place in school. Our attendance expectations and procedures remain in place for this period. We absolutely believe that students are being well prepared for their exams in school, in lessons.

Engage

Mr Jesper



Beech ✨

103,848

Ms Coleman



Birch

102,649

Ms Buxton-Collins



Ash

91,378

Mrs Fraser



Oak

91,381

Miss Snowdon/
Miss Macken



Sycamore

90,113

Total points per 7 May 2026

Queen Elizabeth High School

Whetstone Bridge Road, Hexham, NE46 3JB

T: 01434 610300 E: admin@qehs.net

www.qehs.net

Executive Headteacher: Graeme Atkins

Head of School: Neil Seaton



Under 19 football: QEHS complete historic treble with cup final victory

Queen Elizabeth High School capped off a remarkable season in style, securing a historic treble with an impressive victory over Framwellgate Moor in the Tyneside Senior Schools Cup Final. The success rounds off what has been a truly outstanding season for QEHS, with every player contributing to a year that will be remembered for a long time. Congratulations to all involved for their commitment, effort, and teamwork throughout the campaign. A special mention must also go to those players in Year 11 and Year 13 who now move on. Thank you for your significant contribution to school sport and we wish you the very best of luck in your next chapter. For more detail see [here](#).

QEHS Spring Concert



Last week we welcomed spring with a fantastic musical evening. The concert featured talented students from QEHS and HMS, all of whom delivered a dazzling performance. The programme included pieces from the Wind Band, Show Choir, Soul Band, Jazz Ensemble, QEHS Choir, as well as the Violin and Flute Ensembles, alongside a variety of impressive solos and duets. See our website for [more pictures](#).



Aspire

Career of the week

This week's career is: <https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/osteopath>

Unifrog Parent Account

Parents/guardians are now able to open their own Unifrog accounts by visiting www.unifrog.org/parent and signing up with the same email address that is linked to their child.

Sixth Form

Year 12 social sciences

We have had a busy time in the social sciences department this week. Students have had the opportunity to attend a number of super-curricular webinars in fields related to psychology, sociology, criminology, nursing and law. Read more on our website: [here](#).

Year 12 geography trip

Our Year 12 geographers are learning about erosion, coastal management and fieldwork techniques and went on a trip to the coast this week.



Sixth form noticeboard

[The sixth form Noticeboard](#) is regularly updated with new opportunities. Please see two new opportunities for the week ahead:

We rely on parents sharing opportunities with 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.

Online Safety

For Parents - How to Talk to Children if they see Traumatic Events

Many children will have seen or heard some of the horrific events that have been happening recently. Whether that's on the news, someone discussing it, or perhaps online, children can be traumatised by what they are seeing and hearing. This article from The Conversation discusses the issue and gives some really good advice.

Link: [The Conversation - How to talk to children when terrorist attacks and violence dominate the news.](#) (Alan McKenzie – Online Safety specialist)

QEHS Parent Teacher & Friends Association news

The QEHS Parent Teacher and Friends Association is run by volunteer parents/carers, teachers and friends of the school who work together to raise funds to make QEHS an even better environment for students to learn and thrive, engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school community.



Registered Charity 1201950

Do you need support with the cost of school trips or music tuition?

In the Autumn term, we launched our PTFA bursary fund to help families who could not otherwise afford for their child to participate in a school trip or pay for music tuition. More information about the fund and how to apply for a bursary award can be found here: [QEHS PTFA Bursary Fund](#)

If you or your workplace would like to contribute towards the fund, you can donate online via [Justgiving - PTFA Bursary Fund](#). Alternatively, you can email us to discuss other support options: qehs.ptfa@gmail.com

If you would prefer to make a more general donation to support the funding of enrichment activities and equipment for the whole school community, you can make a one-off or regular donation at our [JustGiving PTFA](#) page. JustGiving sends your donation straight to us and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.

Do you have any useful skills or knowledge to share?

We'd love to hear from you if you do, whether that is social media skills, fundraising, bookkeeping, admin, leadership skills or having good local community links.

31 PTFA dates for the diary

- Friday 22 May - half term tuckshop, where we'll be selling confectionery in school
- Thursday 25 June - Y13 Art Showcase, where we'll be serving refreshments
- Tuesday 30 June - new Y9 parents meeting, where we'll be selling pre-loved uniform
- Thursday 9 July - Save the date for a friendly meet & greet social evening with a special performance - more details to follow.

If you can spare even a little time to help out at these events, or to help prepare for them, please get in touch.

✉ Contact the PTFA committee by emailing qehs.ptfa@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook (QEHS Parent, Teacher & Friends Association), Instagram and Threads (@qehs_parent_teacher_friends)

Welcome to our new lottery members!

Our winners last month each won a £25 cash prize, and there's still time to be in this month's PTFA lottery draw. Tickets cost £1 per entry, with 2 monthly cash prizes. Entry is very simple and online. For more information and to sign up, complete the online application [online application](#) or email qehsprizedraw@gmail.com.



News from the community

Autism family drop-in sessions

New times and dates are available for the NCC autism family drop-in sessions. For info see [here](#).

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Workshops

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Workshops are taking place at Hexham Family Hub. These workshops are designed for parents and carers of children and young people under 18 who are autistic, have a learning disability, or are waiting for a diagnosis. The sessions aim to help families better understand behaviour, explore supportive strategies, and develop practical approaches that focus on improving everyday family life. For more information see [here](#).

Hexham Bike Bus – volunteers needed!

Following November’s successful piloting of a ‘Bike Bus’ initiative in Hexham, Tynedale’s Bicycle Mayor, David Dixon, has secured more funding for bike bus training for volunteer guides. A bike bus is a supervised grouping of cyclists who move together as a unit and therefore have greater protection from traffic than when cycling alone. Our support of this reinforces the message that cycling can have many benefits for individuals – fitness, fun and convenience – and the community, as ever-increasing traffic congestion contributes to higher accident rates, pollution and Climate Change. However, without more adult guides, the scheme won’t be sustainable.

If you or someone you know can spare a small amount of time on a morning or afternoon each week to support this initiative, it would be greatly appreciated. Training is taking place on **Wednesday 13 May**. For more details, please contact David via daviddixon649@gmail.com.

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Tuesday 5 May – Friday 19 June	GCSE and A-level exams	Year 11 and Year 13
Friday 15 May	Pop-up Uniform shop – 3.30-5.30pm	Book a time slot here
Friday 22 May	School closes at 3.20pm	All year groups
Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May	Summer Half Term Holiday	All year groups
Monday 1 June	School reopens at 8.40am	All year groups
Monday 1 June – Friday 12 June	Kenya expedition	Year 10 (group)
Monday 1 June – Friday 5 June	Ford Castle residential	Year 9 (groups)
Tuesday 2 June – Friday 5 June	Holocaust Awareness Visit Poland	Year 9 and Year 10 (group)

Tuesday 2 June – Thursday 4 June	DofE Expedition	Year 10 (group)
Monday 8 June – Friday 12 June	Madrid residential	Year 10 (group)
Monday 8 June – Friday 12 June	Paris residential – work experience	Year 12 (group)

Free School Meals

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

N Seaton

Neil Seaton
Head of School

Pupil support and safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Anne Lloyd
Deputy Safeguarding Leader: Mr Emerson Brown
SENDCo: Mrs Laura Warland

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