

19 June 2026

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 35

This week I had the pleasure of hosting a breakfast for students in Year 9 who achieved outstanding grades for Attitude to Learning. Mr Main and I explained to them that being respectful, engaged and aspirational are qualities that will serve them well now and in later life. It is important that we celebrate this achievement for the students.

We also rolled over the timetable with the new Year 10 students starting their new courses. The new start enables students to focus, engage and attend well.

Respect

Attendance

Every day in school really matters. Good attendance helps your child feel confident, keep up with learning, and build strong friendships. Even a few missed days can quickly add up.

Thank you for your continued support in making attendance a priority. Together, we can help your child succeed! You can check your child's attendance on Bromcom. The aim is over 95%. (Band 1) Anything below 90% (Band 3 or lower) is a serious concern.

Engage

Mr Jesper



Beech 🌟

116,384

Ms Coleman



Birch

114,374

Ms Buxton-Collins



Ash

102,730

Mrs Fraser



Oak

102,803

Miss Snowdon/
Miss Macken



Sycamore

100,672

Total points per 18 June 2026

Queen Elizabeth High School

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www.qehs.net

Executive Headteacher: Graeme Atkins

Head of School: Neil Seaton

Athletics



Before half term, our Inter boys' and girls' teams took on the English Schools Track & Field Cup at Gateshead Stadium.

The boys performed brilliantly to qualify for the Regional B Final (which we were unfortunately unavailable to attend due to so many students on school trips).

The girls were excellent and qualified for the Regional A Final. We travelled down to York to compete against some of the strongest schools in the region. After the track events, they were sitting in 3rd place... and showed incredible determination to hold on to that position through the field events. Third place in the A Final is an incredible achievement in such a strong field!

Absolutely fantastic effort from the entire team. They were a pleasure to take to the event and proud doesn't even cover it!

Durham Regatta

Our QEHS rowers competed at the historic Durham Regatta this weekend and performed impressively across a busy and highly competitive programme. Thanks to excellent organisation from the coaches, the day ran smoothly and saw standout victories for two Year 9 crews:

- Boys' octuple sculls: Magnus, Cameron, Theo, Callum, Hamish, Freddie, Isaac, James and cox Madeleine
- Girls' quad: Ella, Flo, Annabelle, Gaby and cox Libby



The achievements highlight the growing potential of the school's younger athletes, while a special presentation ceremony rounded off the event for the winners. Coaches praised the effort and enthusiasm of all involved, reflecting the strong passion for rowing within QEHS. Follow this [link](#) for further details.

Cricket news Year 10



The Year 10 team reached the Knight Stokes Cup final with a dominant win over Kings at Tynemouth CC. A superb bowling and fielding display restricted Kings to just 83, highlighted by Callum and Rowan's key wickets, before QEHS comfortably chased the target in eight overs thanks to strong batting from Dan and Lucas. They now face Whitley Bay in the regional final on 22 June, with progression to the national stages and a county cup final place at stake. Follow this [link](#) for a more detailed match report.

A-level Art Exhibition “A Sense of Wonder “

This eclectic exhibition of visual arts spanning the two main galleries of the Queen’s Hall is curated by staff and students from Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham. The young artists are showing their work made for their A-level studies made last year and this. The exhibition title invokes the very special feelings that these creative students feel towards their work and express in the amazing variety of art on display. This sense of wonder leads many students to study at Newcastle College’s foundation



course and onwards to creative degree courses across the country. 13th June – 4th July.

QEHS Art – Final Show



Art, Graphics & Photography. Exhibiting the work of our current Sixth Form students.

Queen Elizabeth High School: **Thursday 25th June, 5pm to 7pm**

Walltown

During REA week, year 10 students visited Walltown Country Park to complete fieldwork for their Biology/Combined Science GCSE studies. They used random sampling to estimate the number of willow plants in an area, followed by systematic sampling looking at the change in biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) factors as you move out of a wooded area. Students worked with staff and volunteers from Northumberland National Park, and were excellent ambassadors for the school.



The Big Future - national children and young people’s survey



The Children’s Commissioner is asking for all children and young people to complete the new survey, [The Big Future](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture). The Commissioner wants to make sure that she hears from as many children and young people as possible, aged 0-18, from all backgrounds, in all schools and colleges, and in every part of the country. She is asking them about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns and their hopes for the future.

More than anything, she wants to know what they think a good childhood should look like today.

We will be promoting this in school but, if your child hasn’t yet submitted a response, please ask them to complete the survey via this link: <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>. The findings will be published next year and they will be used to advocate at the highest level for solutions that children want to see to the problems that they say are most important to them.

Aspire

Workplace experiences programme

A huge thank-you to everyone who attended our Business Breakfast and showed such enthusiasm for QEHS's new Year 10 Workplace Experiences Programme (2026/27).

Your support helps create meaningful encounters, workplace visits, and experiences for our students – boosting confidence, ambition, and social mobility across our area.



We're especially grateful to the businesses already stepping forward with volunteering, workshops, and placements.

If your organisation would like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Andrew Hedley ahedley@qehs.net for details or complete this short form: <https://forms.office.com/e/DTjB3RRmVu>

Career of the week

This week's job of the week was: <https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/electronics-engineer>

You can activate your parent / carer Unifrog account by visiting www.unifrog.org/parent and signing up with the same email address that is linked to your child on Bromcom.

Sixth Form

Sixth form noticeboard

[The sixth form Noticeboard](#) is regularly updated with new opportunities. Please visit regularly to see what has been added. There have been new [local and national apprenticeship opportunities](#) added this week.

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.

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

We'd love to hear your ideas and suggestions

Why not come along to our next PTFA meeting on Tuesday 23 June, 6-7.30pm at the County Hotel, Hexham (in the 'Snug') to discuss how we raise funds and spend them for the benefit of all students, to enrich their school experience. We're a friendly bunch, very informal, and it's always great to see new faces and to hear new ideas or suggestions - come on your own or bring a friend or family member if you like!

Raise a glass to Y13 Artists



On 25 June 5-7pm, you're invited to come into school to browse the fantastic artwork of Y13. As you enjoy the exhibition, why not treat yourself to a refreshment? Whether it's a soft drink, a glass of Pimm's, wine or beer, every purchase supports the PTFA and helps create additional opportunities for our students. No cash? No problem - we accept card payments too!

Join our team!


We need a Treasurer - you don't need to be a maths genius or have accounting experience! Just someone who's reasonably organised and willing to get involved. If you'd like to make a real difference with a small, friendly team, we'd love to hear from you. Email: qehs.ptfa@gmail.com or come along to our next meeting to meet the team.

PTFA dates for the diary

Tuesday 23 June - PTFA meeting - all welcome - 6 - 7.30pm, The County Hotel, Hexham (in the 'Snug')
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

Meet & Greet postponed

Please note that the meet & greet social evening we hoped to host on 9 July has been postponed until the Autumn term. We will update everyone with further details when we are able.

 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

Hexham Priory School Fundraiser

Hexham Priory School, which supports 130 children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), is launching a £24k in 24 Hours Challenge to raise funds for a new project to transform half of their current cookery room into a purpose-built apartment for their pupils to practise independent living skills. The initiative begins at 10.30am on June 25 and will see Sarah Dodd, head of pastoral services, run and walk alternate laps of the track at Wentworth Leisure Centre for a full 24 hours. For more details, please see [here](#), and to contribute, please see [here](#).

The Great British Summer Savings scheme



The Great British Summer Savings scheme is running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, helping families feel a bit less squeezed this summer.

The new scheme includes reduced VAT on days out, including tickets at attractions like soft play, adventure centres and theme parks, children's tickets for theatres and cinemas, and children's meals in restaurants. Children aged 5 to 15 in England will also be able to travel free on local bus services throughout August.

For further information about the scheme visit [Summer Savings](#). This is in addition to further support available to families, with more information available at Cost of Living Help.

Water Safety Day

The RNLI has launched a campaign aimed at raising awareness and supporting young people to stay safe around water. You can find more information [here](#). On **Saturday 4 July, 11:00-14:00hrs** at **Riverside Park, Prudhoe, NE42 6NP**, the Prudhoe Youth Project, in conjunction with Tyne Valley Canoe Club will host a Water Safety Day, which will give attendees the opportunity to get out on the water with instructors on a kayak, canoe or SUP board. There will also be the opportunity to test safety equipment and demonstrations by Northumberland Fire and Rescue, Mountain Rescue and the Northumbria Police Marine Unit. Everyone is welcome. See [here](#) for more information.

Online Safety Update

For Parents - New Videos from Internet matters

Over the last few days Internet Matters have released two new videos onto their YouTube channel which I'm sure will be useful to a lot of parents. They are both very short, the first is 'what to do if a stranger contacts your child online', and the second is what to do if your child is bullied online.

Link: Video - [what to do if a stranger contacts your child online.](#)

Link: Video - [what to do if your child is bullied online.](#) (By Alan Mackenzie, Online Safety Specialist)

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Saturday 13 June – Friday 5 July	A-level art exhibition	
Monday 22 – Friday 26 June	House activities	All Year groups
Tuesday 7 July	Trips and visits day	new Year 10 and new Year 11
Tuesday 7 – Thursday 9 July	DofE Expedition	Group of new Year 11
Thursday 25 June	QEHS Final Art Show, 5-7pm	

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