

10 July 2026

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 38

Our annual trips and visits day saw students enjoying a wide range of experiences, from exploring the rich history of Beamish and the sights of Edinburgh, to trips to the cinema and the excitement of Flamingo Land.

Days like these do not happen by chance. I would like to thank the many members of staff who work behind the scenes to make them possible. Our teachers invest significant time planning and leading visits, our administrative staff coordinate the countless logistical details, and our site team ensure everything runs smoothly before and after each trip. Their contribution is invaluable.

We were also delighted to welcome our new Year 9 students for their transfer day this week. It was wonderful to see them begin their QEHS journey with such enthusiasm and confidence. A particular highlight was the opportunity for students to meet Ms Innes, who will join the school as Headteacher.

Although the summer break is now in sight, there is still plenty to look forward to next week. Students will continue with their learning right through to the end of term before we come together for a rewards afternoon, our Sixth Form charity fundraising day and our end-of-year celebration assemblies. These events ensure we finish the term in the spirit of our values of Respect, Engage, and Aspire. We will also be celebrating students in Year 9 and 10 during our celebration evening on Monday evening.

Charity Day

On Thursday 16 July, Year 13 will host the annual sixth form charity day, raising money for Hexham based charity, Adapt. The students have planned their own stalls and activities. There will be a wide range of food and drink, games to take part in, and sporting competitions. Years 9 and 10 will join in the fun during P3 and over lunchtime. Please could students bring cash along on the day? As part of the house reward system, some students will have extra tokens for use on the day in addition to the usual cash system. Many thanks for your support. The last day of term is also non-uniform day.

Respect

Attendance



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

Engage

Mr Jesper



Beech ✨

124,913

Ms Coleman



Birch

120,898

Ms Buxton-Collins



Ash

110,628

Mrs Fraser



Oak

110,058

Miss Snowdon/
Miss Macken



Sycamore

107,107

(per 9 July 2026)

EDT (Engineering Development Trust) – Sustainability



Well done to a group of Year 9 and Year 12 students who were awarded their bronze and gold EDT awards last week.

The bronze team created a model based on the theme 'My school is an island'. They worked with a STEM mentor from Osbit. They had to write a report and present their findings to STEM professionals and were delighted to win the teamwork award.

The gold team carried out research and created a model to solve the problem of flattening sand on a nuclear site. They worked with mentors from RED Engineering, and they won the award for innovation.

Talkin Tarn regatta

QEHS rowers enjoyed a successful day at the Talkin Tarn Regatta, our final local competition of the season, recording an impressive 10 event wins. The following crews won their events:

Op 4+ Alexis, Mack, Felix and James;

Op 1x James H

WJ14 4x+ Gaby, Ella, Flo and Annabelle

WJ15 2x Maeve and Bella

W4+ Isla, Annabelle, Marta and Maeve

Mx8 + Mack, Alexis, Alec, Alex, Millie, Beth, Hannah, Astrid and cox Constance

WJ16 2x Ariel and Isla

J16 1x Markus

MX 2x Benji and Bella.



With strong performances across all age groups, the club now turns its attention to the British Rowing Championships in Nottingham, where we hope to build on this excellent form. Good luck to all QEHS competitors racing at Champs! Follow this [link](#) to for more specifics and photos.

Go Ape trip

On Tuesday, 42 students and 6 members of staff enjoyed an action-packed day at the Go Ape Treetop Adventure Plus course in Whinlatter.

Our students were a real credit to the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour throughout the day. Many challenged themselves to step well outside their comfort zones as they tackled the high ropes, crossings and zip wires with determination, resilience, and plenty of encouragement for one another. Most importantly, everyone had great fun and came away with a real sense of achievement. Well done to all involved for making it such a fantastic day!



Aspire

Your Child's Future – Parent & Carer Questionnaire

We're inviting you to take part in *Your Child's Future*, a short questionnaire designed to help us understand how confident and informed parents and carers feel about careers and future pathways.

Your responses will help us strengthen how we work with families and ensure our careers programme is as supportive, accessible and effective as possible for all young people.

The questionnaire asks about topics such as:

- How confident you feel talking to your child about careers
- How familiar you are with the different options available after school or college
- How well you understand the careers programme at your child's school, specialist setting or college

By sharing your views, you'll help us shape a careers programme that better supports your child — and all young people — as they plan for their future.

Link: [Your Child's Future 2025/2026](#)

The links will be active until July 31st 2026



Career of the week

This week's job of the week was neuroscientist:

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/neuroscientist>

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@gehs.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

Used uniform request

As we approach the end of term, we would welcome any donations of school uniform that has been outgrown and is in good, clean condition, so it can be reused and appreciated by other students. We would be especially grateful for any items our former Year 11 students can pass on now that they no longer need them. Donations can be brought into the school office. Thank you.

Bring your skills and ideas - or a pair of willing hands - and help make a difference

If you'd like to get involved with the PTFA next year, we'd love to hear from you. Whether you're great at organising, budgeting, promoting events or simply bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm, there's a place for every skill set. Supporting the PTFA is a brilliant way to make a tangible difference to school life while meeting other parents and feeling more connected to our school community. If you're interested, just drop us a line at gehs.ptfa@gmail.com

💰 A chance to win one of two cash prizes each month

Tickets for the PTFA lottery cost just £1 with simple online entry. For more information and to sign up complete the [online application](#) or email gehsprizedraw@gmail.com.

✉ Contact the PTFA committee by emailing gehs.ptfa@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook (QEHS Parent, Teacher & Friends Association), Instagram and Threads (@gehs_parent_teacher_friends).

News from the community

Summer events

There's lots going on in our community this summer. Have a look at this [overview](#), there's something for everyone!

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Friday 10 – Monday 13 July	DofE Expedition	Group of new Year 13
Friday 17 July	Non-school uniform day	All year groups
Friday 17 July	School closes for the summer at 1.30pm	All year groups
Wednesday 2 September	School assemblies for Year 9 and reassemblies for Year 13	Year 9, Year 13
Thursday 3 September	School reassemblies for Years 10, 11 and Year 12 start Sixth form	Years 10, 11 and 12

Free School Meals

From September 2026 the government is making changes to eligibility criteria for Free School Meals. Notably, it is expanding eligibility to all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit. For further information on the changes, how to check eligibility and to apply for Free School Meals go to: <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/education-skills/schools/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. To apply, please [complete this form](#) via Northumberland County Council.

Have a wonderful weekend



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@gehs.net

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