



# Queen Elizabeth High School

*spes durat avorum*

27 September 2024

## QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 4

Dear Parent/Carer

Our annual open evening was very well attended and the feedback from those visiting was incredibly positive about the school and the students who volunteered. Thank you to all the students who helped with ushering, in departments and extracurricular clubs. The best advert for our school is the students who represent themselves and the school incredibly well.

There are places available on the school tours next week. If you know anyone looking for a school place next year, please direct them to the QEHS website to book a tour.

### **MCAS – where to find payments**

If you receive an email request for one off payments for items such as Year 12 calculators, 6 form lanyards, revision guides and textbooks, these will be in the 'Store' section at the bottom of your MCAS App. Payments for any school trips will be in the 'Trips' tile of the MCAS App.

### **Respect**

#### **Use of derogatory language**

Our young people are exposed to lots of information and misinformation on social media platforms. As a community we do not accept the use of hate speech in school. Recently some of the students have begun using a term 'hawk tuah'. After some research we have discovered that the term has currency on TikTok and is a sexualised term. We do not know how aware students are about its meaning, but we have made it clear that there is no reason why it should be used in school and, in line with our policy on derogatory language, will result in a stage 4.

### **Engage**

#### **Hexham Abbey Singing Project**

Well done to all HMS and QEHS students who performed in the Hexham Abbey Singing Project, which was part of the Hexham Abbey Festival of Arts and Music. Both schools performed a piece each and were then part of a large choir of 200 young people, made up of students from schools across Hexham and Corbridge. Together, they performed a piece called '1350' (a world premiere in fact!) which was written by local composer and teacher Fiona Lander. It told the story of the Abbey and its early history.

### **Queen Elizabeth High School**

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[www.qehs.net](http://www.qehs.net)

Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

All students were exemplary in their conduct. Many thanks also to Ms Rowell and Mr Harbron who attended and supported the event, and not forgetting HMS' very own Mr Holdsworth who returned to accompany the HMS choir in their piece and was of course adored by his fans all day!

### Youth Election 2025

The expression of interest form goes live at 7am on the 20th Sept and closes at midday on the 13th Dec. Click [here](#) to open the form. Or use the QR code below.

This opportunity to all young people aged 11-18



### Aspire

#### Careers

This week's Career of the Week was 'Architect'. A link to the page shown in tutorial from 'Unifrog' is below:

Job of the week: Architect

**Unifrog:** <https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/direct/architect>

Further information can be found on **Unifrog:**  
<https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/direct/influencer>

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 this 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](https://www.unifrog.org/code).

### Online Safety Update

#### For Parents - Video Games and Children

Unicef have shared an article with some nice, clear and simple advice for parents/carers about online gaming. The article covers how to create a positive and safe gaming environment, how parents can engage with their children, what the benefits of gaming are and more.

You can view the article on the Unicef website [HERE](#). (by Alan McKenzie – E-safety advisor)

## Sixth Form

### Q&A with Lord Paddick

Our Year 12 Politics group enjoyed an exclusive Q & A with Lord Paddick this afternoon.

They prepared some interesting questions on his role in the Met Police, his political career and his views on House of Lords reform.



### 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@gehs.net](mailto:sixthform@gehs.net). Equally, if you would like to advertise local job opportunities (paid or voluntary) please send the details.

Finally, last year, we have had 143 Year 12 students taking part in work experience, 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@gehs.net](mailto:sixthform@gehs.net).

## News from the community

### Free dance show tickets for under 18's

*PCK Dance present*

*IMAGO*

*Thursday 3 October, 7.30pm | 12+*

IMAGO is a sophisticated and daring dance duet which exposes the intricate and often hidden dysfunctions in relationships within a coded nod to the Language of Flowers. [More info.](#)

*Fertile Ground present*

*Play, Pause, Repeat*

*Tuesday 15 October, 7.30pm | 12+*

A stunning double bill exploring love and memory showcasing some of the brightest dance talents from the North East including Daisy Dancer from Hexham! [More info.](#)

Under 18's can book two free tickets each, for either or both of the performances, when using the promo code **QHDance4Free** online or at Box Office. Please note: under 16's need to be accompanied by an adult.

### Hextol Foundation event

The Hextol Foundation invites you to their Discover Hextol event to be held on Thursday 10th October (World Mental Health Day), between 4-6pm. This will be held in the Tans café and is a great opportunity to find out more about Hextol. For more information see [here](#).

### 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](mailto:qehsprizedraw@gmail.com).



### LRC recommended read

Three young people will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, all with the same mission in common, to escape. Refugee by Alan Gratz, is the recommended read from the LRC.

#### Three different kids.

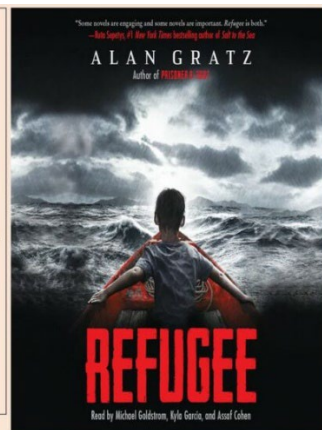
#### One mission in common: ESCAPE.

**Josef** is a Jewish boy in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

**Isabel** is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety and freedom in America...

**Mahmoud** is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe...

All three young people will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers—from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But for each of them, there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, surprising connections will tie their stories together in the end.



## Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Wednesday 9 – Sunday 13 October (corrected date)	Y13 Iceland residential	Year 13

**Keep the date: The Year 11 Prom date will be Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025.**

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](mailto:admin@qehs.net)

For queries regarding attendance or absence, please email [attendance@qehs.net](mailto:attendance@qehs.net)