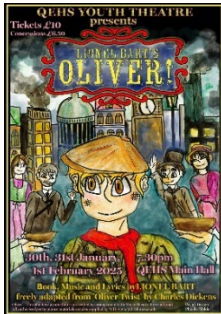




17th January 2025

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 17

This week we have enjoyed various opportunities to engage with parents/carers. On Tuesday, the PTFA met to plan their refreshment provision for Youth Theatre and their upcoming vintage prom dress sale (Friday 7th and Sunday 9th February at Tynedale Hospice shop in Hexham). Our SEND department met with parents for the Neurokin coffee morning where they had the opportunity to hear from an external speaker. Y9 parents were in school for their parents' evening. Some Y11 parents have been in school for their meetings with the sixth form team. All these events remind us how important the relationship between home and school is in supporting our students.



We are also very excited to launch the ticket sales for the Youth Theatre production of Lionel Bart's 'Oliver'. The performances take place on 30 January, 31 January and 1 February. For more information, please have a look on our website: [here](#).

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 10 January)

Year group	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	All years
Percentage	93.4%	90.1%	87.9%	91.1%

Car park

When collecting from school, please don't block cars in on the ramp approach into the car park – this has been an issue for some parked cars this week.

Queen Elizabeth High School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

Engage



Year 10 art update

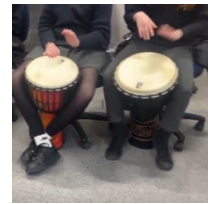
Year 10 fine art students have made a great start to the new year with their sheep skull drawing and creative manipulations.

Follow this [link](#) to see more pictures on our website.

Year 9 music update

Year 9 are playing djembes this term as part of their Saharan Sounds topic in Music. They are rehearsing pieces which explore cyclic rhythms and polyrhythms as well as learning different playing techniques.

<https://youtu.be/NmePywswMLw>



Student success



Two of Year 11 students have been selected to join the Newcastle Falcons Foundation Academy and started training with them last night at Kingston Park, both play for Tynedale.

Well done Aaron and Archie.

English Schools' National Chess Championships

Well done to Harvey, Philip, Alfie, Ben, Isaac and Dominic who have progressed to the next round of this national competition following a successful visit to Ponteland High School this week to play their 'B' team. We await details of our opponents in the next round but wish the team well whoever they get.

Collection for the West End Refugee Service

The QEHS Human Rights Club has organised a collection for the West End Refugee Service. The collection will start on the 3rd of February. More details can be found in the [poster](#) on our website.

Aspire

Sixth form option meetings

The sixth form options meetings for our current year 11 students 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: Acoustics Engineer

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

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

QEHS Parent Teacher & Friends Association news

PTFA Prom Pop-up Shop – 7 and 9 February

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. It will take place at the Tynedale Hospice at Home shop on 7 and 9 February.



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](#).

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

The first LRC recommended read of 2025 is the must-read fantasy from Frances Hardinge, *Unraveller*.

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...



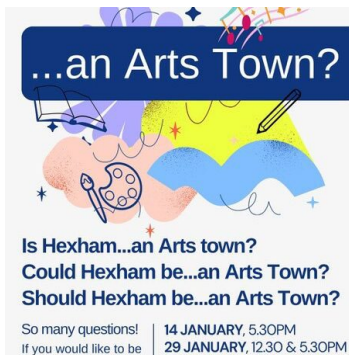
News from the community

Egger Open Day – Saturday 18 January

Tomorrow is the Egger Open Day. For more information and to book a place, follow this [link](#).

Hexham Arts Town

Hexham Cultural Network are discussing the possible future of Hexham as an Arts Town! It's an opportunity to find out more, to share your ideas and to ask the team questions.



Hexham Library Wednesday 29 January, 12.30pm & 5.30pm
Find out more: <https://www.queenshall.co.uk/whats-on/hexham-arts-town-talks>

Online Safety Update

How to Deal with Online Scams

Continuing the theme, ParentZone have put together a very simple but really useful webpage guide for parents which would be worth sharing. You can find the guide [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.

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 20 January	E Band parents' evening 4-7pm	Year 9
Thursday 30 January	Youth Theatre 'Oliver' 7.30pm	All
Friday 31 January	Youth Theatre 'Oliver' 7.30pm	All
Saturday 1 February	Youth Theatre 'Oliver' 7.30pm	All
Wednesday 5 February	Parents' evening 4-7pm	Year 12
Friday 7 February	Prom pop-up shop	Year 11 (all welcome)
Sunday 9 February	Prom pop-up shop	Year 11 (all welcome)

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