

Autumn 2025



# Welcome!

What a brilliant start to the new academic year. It has been wonderful to welcome new students and their families to the school community. Our Year 7 students have settled in very well and our new students in other year groups have also had a very positive start to the year.

We would also like to take this opportunity to introduce several new members of staff –

Miss Jago joins the Modern Foreign Languages Department and Miss Moffatt joins us in the Humanities Department. We also welcome back Mr Horbury as Cover Supervisor and Mr Crosbie has taken up the role of Student Health and Administration Executive Officer.

We also have some role changes within School which sees Mr Alexander filling the position of our Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mrs Morgan stepping into the position of Executive Assistant to the Headteacher.

We welcome all new members of the school community and hope that their time here will be happy and successful.

Mrs C Clarke Headteacher

#### What's inside:

- Our School Vision
- Punctuality matters!
- Uniform Standards
- Student Lanyards
- Anti Bullying
- House Points Update
- Communications
- Enrichment Clubs
- Annual Prize Giving
- School Play

And much more...





# Our School Vision - 'Always strive to do your utmost'

- We will strive for excellence, be a forward thinking, inclusive and nurturing school which enables our students to achieve well, enriching their lives.
- We believe that high quality teaching, learning and leadership are fundamental to our success. We will create a culture of learning, collaboration, evidence informed practice and innovation.
- We will embed ambition in our students to enable them to lead a balanced life as adults, capable of contributing to society.

#### **Communications**

For those of you who are new to the school, our newsletters will be published each term, however, you can receive regular updates via our school Facebook page and website. Please ensure that you visit these sites as they may have important information which is relevant to your child.

School website - <a href="https://qe2.sch.im/">https://qe2.sch.im/</a>

Facebook - www.facebook.com/QE2IOM

Please send student absence related emails to:

qe2absences@sch.im

or to our **general email** address:

qe2enquiries@sch.im

You can also scan our QR code with your mobile device to take you directly to our website.

During term time, lost property can be collected from the school between 8:00am and 4:45pm,

Monday to Friday.

**Lost Property** 

As a reminder we would be grateful if you could ensure that all of your child's property is clearly labelled with their full name. That way, if anything does get lost and is found and handed in, we can return it to them.



# Are your details up to date?

We would be grateful if you could remember to let us know if you change your address or contact details during the year, as it is vital that we have up to date information at all times.

Please make any changes in the Arbor Parent App or email in to:

qe2enquiries@sch.im

Please remember to include your child's full name in any communications with the school so that they can be easily identified by the Admin Team. Thank you.



# **Uniform Standards**

At QEII, we believe that our uniform policy found <u>HERE</u> helps foster a sense of belonging, equality, and pride within our school community. Our uniform reflects our CARE values and supports a learning environment where all students can thrive.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of families in helping us maintain uniform standards, ensuring every student feels prepared and ready to learn.

We understand that the cost of uniform can be a concern for some families. QEII is committed to supporting our community, and we offer assistance through our QEII Hardship Fund. If you require any support, please don't hesitate to email the school, marking your email for the attention of the headteacher.

Additionally, families may be eligible for further support through the Department for Education, Sport and Culture via the following link: <u>School uniform assistance</u>

#### Uniform reminders:

- Trousers must be tailored and grey or black in colour. Jeans, leggings, tight-stretch or flared style trousers are not permitted.
- · Skirts must be of a practical style (not bodycon/lycra) and no shorter than 2 inches above the knee.
- Tailored shorts are permitted and should be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee.



#### **Enrichment Clubs**

We have a fabulous selection of enrichment clubs available, both during and after school, meaning that there should be something to suit everyone! The full list (including sports clubs) can be viewed on our school website –

https://qe2.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/23/Co-Curricular

Please note that the PE Department has its own Facebook page, celebrating sporting successes and giving details of fixtures and other useful information. Be sure to follow them –

https://www.facebook.com/Queen-Elizabeth-II-High-School-Sport-139995876459199/?fref=pb&hc\_location=profile\_browser

If your child is celebrating any achievements, either sporting or otherwise, please send details through to <a href="mailto:qe2enquiries@sch.im">qe2enquiries@sch.im</a> and we will be happy to share their success with the wider community.



# **Punctuality matters!**

At QEII, we are committed to ensuring that every student has an equal opportunity to make the most of their education. We believe that a positive and encouraging atmosphere begins with regular and punctual attendance, which helps set the tone for a successful day of learning.

Punctuality is not only a key life skill, it also reflects reliability, respect for others, and a readiness to engage in the school community.

#### Top tips to support your child in having a positive start to their day:

- Encourage your child to prepare everything they need for school the night before.
- Establish a consistent bedtime routine to ensure they get a good night's sleep, limiting device use before bed. Recommended sleep hours: Ages 11–12, 9 to 12 hours and ages 13–18, 8 to 10 hours.
- Support your child in setting their own alarm to build independence and responsibility.
- Reduce distractions such as TV and gaming before school.
- Take advantage of our hot and cold breakfast options available in the school canteen from 08:15 to 08:45.
- If you need support or would like to discuss any individual barriers to punctuality or attendance, please contact your child's tutor as early as possible—we're here to help.

#### A few reminders:

- **Tutor period** (Line-up for Years 7–9) begins promptly at **08:45**.
- Students arriving between **08:45** and **09:00** should go directly to their Tutor to be registered.
- Students arriving **after 09:00** must sign in at **Reception** and have their planner stamped.

Thank you for your continued support in reinforcing the importance of punctuality. Your partnership plays a vital role in helping our students start each day feeling prepared, supported, and ready to learn.

# Important mock exam information!

Year 11 mock examinations - Monday 10th November - Friday 21st November

Year 13 mock examinations - Monday 24th November - Friday 28th November

Students in Year 11 and Year 13 should receive their mock exam timetables this week. If students notice an issue or feel something is incorrect on their timetables, please let the exam team know before Monday 3rd November for Year 11s or Monday 10th November for Year 13s.

For any Year 11 students who usually attend college on a Tuesday, unless already told should attend college as usual.

There will be an exam assembly on Thursday 6th November for Year 11 students and a line up practice for those students whose exams are taking place in the Hall. It is important students are in attendance for both.

Come prepared! Please can all students come prepared for their exams with a clear pencil case, containing a black pen (a spare is handy), pencil and maths equipment. If students wish to bring a drink into the exam room, it must be in a clear bottle with no labels.

This week students will also be sent important exam documents to their @online.sch.im school accounts which will contain various information which is essential reading.



### Illness and School Attendance Guidance

If your child is ill (e.g. vomiting or diarrhoea), please keep them at home until they are feeling better. For sickness and diarrhoea, children should remain off school for 48 hours after the last episode to prevent the spread of infection.

At this time of year, coughs and colds are common. If your child has **mild cold symptoms** (such as a runny nose or slight cough) and is otherwise well, they **can attend school**. We will support them throughout the day and monitor their wellbeing.

If symptoms worsen or your child has a high temperature, is very unwell, or you are unsure, please seek medical advice and keep them at home until they have recovered.

Please also remember to advise the school as early as possible of any absences by **telephone or email**.

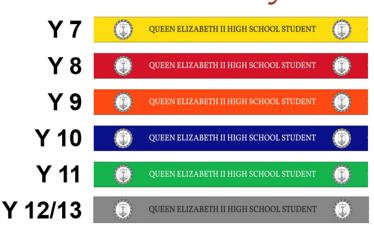
#### **Lunch Passes**

If you have not completed an application form since we returned to school at the beginning of September, and would like to give permission for your child to leave school during lunchtime, please ask your child to collect an application form from Reception.

We require a new application form to be completed each academic year – lunch passes do not automatically get renewed from one year to the next.

If any children leave school during lunchtime without permission, it will be viewed as a serious safeguarding concern and will warrant further consequences.

# **New Student Lanyards**



# Anti-Bullying

Queen Elizabeth II High School is committed to creating and sustaining a safe, positive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and parents/carers.

More information about our Anti-Bullying Policy can be found on our school website –

https://qe2.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/100/Anti-Bullying

Our online Bullying Report Form can also be found on this page or by scanning the QR Code below with your mobile device –



### Sports Awards

September marked the return of the QEII Sports Awards — a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students and teams who represented QEII throughout the last academic year.

Guests enjoyed a review of the sporting year, followed by an inspiring talk from special guest Sam Brand, professional cyclist and former QEII student, who shared his journey from school sports to competing at the elite level.

Awards were presented for School Colours, Teams of the Year, Endeavour Prizes, and Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year across all age groups.





### **Annual Prize Giving**



On Thursday 11th September we held our annual Prize Giving Ceremony, celebrating the successes of students across all year groups.

Our Guest of Honour for the evening was Sarah Maltby, MHK.

Below are just a small selection of photographs from the evening. More photographs will shortly be available on our school website –

https://qe2.sch.im/





### **Reading matters**

The last few weeks have seen form times across Year 7 and Year 8 alive with animated and robust chatter about books.

October has seen the launch of Bookbuzz and the excitement is palpable. Thanks to the generosity of the School Association, we have been able to take part in the scheme which, sponsored by the Book Trust, allows pupils to choose and keep a brand-new book they'll love from sixteen fantastic and diverse titles.

From Katherine Rundell's cracking Impossible Creatures about a young boy who discovers a hidden realm populated by mythical creatures to The Book of Useless Knowledge crammed with 200 weird and wonderful facts or Sharna Jackson's The Nine Night Mystery – a murder mystery with a twist, there is something to suit every taste and flavour. Ask your child about their pick!

Continuing to instil the love and magic of reading is critical to our mission to provide a nurturing and enriching education. Research from the OECD tells us that reading for pleasure is the number one indicator of the future success of a child. Indeed, there is a robust correlation between strong literacy and GCSE success. Surprisingly, this is equally strong in subjects such as English and History as it is in Maths and Science.

Strong literacy skills: reading and writing, vocabulary and talking, are critical in accessing and mediating the curriculum across every subject. Reading, it can be said, is the master skill of secondary school. And so, with the National Literacy Trust reporting that only 1 in 5 of 8–18-year-olds reads daily in their free time and a whopping 7.5% decrease in children's daily reading in 2024 alone, this is something that truly matters.

At QEII we are actively getting our pupils reading. To support this, in form Year 7 - Year 9 have been feasting on a range of rich and ambitious texts, whilst Year 10 and Year 11 have begun exploring the world of allusions and how to use them. We are determined that reading will not be our pupils' Achilles heel.

But there's no substitute for reading at home. So, as the nights draw in, why not curl up on the couch and get reading together?







### School Association Hop-tu-Naa Disco - Year 7

School discos are back!!!

A huge thank you to our **School Association** and the dedicated **staff helpers** who made the Year 7 Hop-tu-Naa disco such a fantastic event.

Students had an amazing evening filled with lots of spooky fun, and their costumes were absolutely brilliant.

Events like these wouldn't be possible without the incredible support from our community, thank you for helping create such a memorable experience for our students.

The event raised over £400 for the School Association.





### **House Points Update**



At our school, we are proud of our praise and reward system, which celebrates both individual and house achievements. Students earn CARE achievement points in lessons for their effort, attitude and progress in line with our CARE values.

These points build up across the half term, with the opportunity to be rewarded towards at the end of the half term – will you be included this time?

Keep giving your best in lessons to find out! Every CARE point also contributes to the overall house total, alongside house points awarded for participation and success in house challenges.

The current leaderboard stands at:

#### Foillan 1881, Caaig 1816, Threshlyn 1801, Shirragh 1790.

The winning house at the start of next half term will be rewarded. Will it be your house on top? Get involved, give your all, and make a difference!

### **Our School Play**

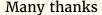
We are currently rehearsing and making our school play about experiences of people in World War II.

We have stories from the Isle of Man residents past and present from their perspectives. If you have any stories you would like to share and that we could use in our play please email me or pass to me via your child.

Rehearsals are going well and I am so impressed with the talent and commitment we have at QEII. A big thank you to the staff and children who are working on the project.

The play will take place week commencing 23rd February and dates to follow immediately. Please can I ask any parents who would like to contribute their time and expertise to help us with costumes and set building or sourcing of props and set to contact me.

If you have any garments that look like they are from the 1940s or have a look of the army (green, beige or navy) that would be brilliant. Overalls, hats, coats, scarves, dresses, shirts and jackets would be super – again that look like it could be worn in the WW2 era.



#### Mrs Greenlees













#### Year 7 PSHE Day - Transition and Wellbeing

Our first PSHE Day of the year saw Year 7 students take part in a fantastic programme focused on transition and personal development. Throughout the day, students participated in sessions led by a range of external agencies including the Police, Isle Listen, Kensington Arts, Motiv8, the Youth Service and St John Ambulance.

The sessions provided students with practical skills for keeping safe, building and maintaining friendships and developing positive interactions and behaviours during this important stage in their lives.

Student engagement and behaviour were excellent throughout the day and representatives from the visiting organisations commented on how impressed they were with the maturity and enthusiasm shown by our Year 7s.

A huge thank you to all the staff and external partners who contributed to making the day such a success!







# **QEII High School Association - News and Events**

A very big **THANK YOU** to all our loyal supporters!

QEII High School Association is a registered charity and is run by enthusiastic volunteers who arrange fundraising events throughout the year. Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th December at 5.00pm in the school Library.

#### Easyfundraising

Easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing some of your favourite online stores. By selecting Queen Elizabeth II High School as your chosen cause, whenever you shop online, and at no extra cost to you, the charity will receive a donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make.

Please sign up via

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/qe2hs/ or scan the following QR code to take you directly to our link-



#### Our Christmas Fayre

This year our Christmas Fayre will be held on Wednesday 3rd December in the Main Hall between 6.00pm and 8.30pm.

Stalls are £15.00 each. If you would like to reserve a stall, please call Sam on 07624 425103 or email <u>qe2hsa@outlook.com</u>.

On the night there will be a great selection of stalls from local crafters and traders, a Santa's Grotto, student stalls and games, refreshments and some fabulous raffle prizes up for grabs!

Admission is £1.00 for adults, which includes entry into a Lucky Programme Draw, children are free.

We look forward to seeing you there!

#### Raffle Prizes

We will generally hold a Raffle at each of our fundraising events and are always grateful to receive donations of prizes. If you have any suitable items that you would be willing to donate, please drop them off at the School Reception.

(Isle of Man Registered Charity Number 799)

QEII High School Association has its own Facebook page. For useful information please be sure to follow us – <a href="https://www.facebook.com/QEIIPeel">https://www.facebook.com/QEIIPeel</a>

# Important Dates...

#### **November**

Thursday 6th November
-Open Evening for Year 6
children and parents

Monday 10th – Friday 21st November – Year 11 Mock Exams

Monday 24th – Friday 28th November – Year 13 Mock Exams

#### December

Wednesday 3rd December – QEII High School Association Christmas Fayre, 6.00pm until 8.30pm in the Main Hall

**Tuesday 9th December** – Year 11 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 10th December – QEII High School Association Meeting, 5.00pm in the Library

Tuesday 16th December – Christmas Concert

Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January 2026 – Christmas Holidays

### **February**

**Tuesday 3rd February** - Year 8 Parents' Evening

Friday 6th February – Wind Band Concert

Thursday 12th February – Dance Showcase

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February - Half Term



#### March

Wednesday 4th March – 14 – 19 Information Evening for Years 9 and 11

Monday 9th - Friday 13th March - Year 10 Mock Exams

> Tuesday 31st March – Year 10 Parents' Evening

#### May

**Monday 4th May** – Bank Holiday

Wednesday 20th May – Heats Day

Friday 22nd May – Inset Day (School closed to students)

Monday 25th May – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 26th May – Friday 5th June – Half Term

#### June

Wednesday 10th June – Reserve Heats Day

**Thursday 18th June** – New Intake Day

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th June – Year 12 Mock Exams

Monday 29th - Friday 3rd July - KS3 Exams

# January

Tuesday 6th January – Years 12 and 13 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 21st January – Year 7 Parents' Evening

# April

**Wednesday 1st April -**Spring Showcase

Friday 3rd - Friday 17th April - Easter Holidays

# July

Monday 6th July -Tynwald Day

Friday 10th July – Sports Day

Thursday 23rd July – School closes for Summer Term