

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity

Chair of Governors: Mrs H Baker



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14th December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

At QEGS, we are privileged to be the local secondary school for the community and we are proud to be fully comprehensive and inclusive in our provision. With over 1300 students and almost 200 staff, we represent a significant proportion of the local population. Whilst we are often celebrating the many successes of our students, staff and school as a whole, at times it is inevitable that we will also be faced with challenges and concerns of wellbeing, behaviour or safety. In fact, these three responsibilities will always take precedence over academic education, which may seem odd to say, however, at QEGS, we believe education should be first and foremost about keeping yourself safe and well. If you are not safe and well, then any learning of knowledge and skills will certainly be less effective.

When there are concerns around student or staff wellbeing, conduct or safety, we have clear policies, protocols and procedures in place. These quickly and accurately inform our next steps including the actions, consequences and support for a collective or individual. In the main, we are overwhelmingly working at the 'minor end' of the spectrum. However, there are occasions when incidents are much more serious and we have to conduct investigations internally and/or with external bodies including the police. If such situations arise, our actions and support must not compromise any legal investigation and subsequent consequence. Regardless of the nature of any incident and subsequent investigation, we will always act to keep students and staff safe and we will impose a range of measures from time limited to permanent sanctions as per our policies and statutory DfE guidance.

As an establishment focused on life-long learning it is important that our students and staff learn to make few, if any, mistakes. We know this is an ambitious aim and so it is vital that our practice and processes are firm and fair, and also supportive in the learning which has to take place beyond the initial incident. We use a wide-range of agencies and groups for this provision and will continue to do so.

In such a close-knit and tight community, there is always so much support for the students and staff and this centres around doing what is best for all. We thank you for your ongoing support and encourage you to get in touch should you have a concern about any student or staff member. The best way for us to support you and the people in our care is to work sensitively, carefully and accurately so that we can ensure the right decisions are made to support you and all at our school.

Should you have any safeguarding or wellbeing concerns, Mr M Bawden, Designated Safeguarding Lead can be contacted via bawden@qegs.email or 01335 343 685 (ext. 1620).

Yours faithfully

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher