ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

Periods 4 and 5 every Wednesday will be timetabled ‘enrichment’. Information on each of the enrichment options is outlined below. Please have a good look and consider which most suits your interests and future plans.

Physical Education

What activities will I do?

- Last year the Enrichment PE group experienced 40 different sporting activities both in and out of school.
- Some activities incur a cost i.e. ice skating - £13, paintballing - £23. This pays for entrance, equipment and transport.

Do I have to take part in everything?

- NO! There will be an option of two activities available each Wednesday afternoon for you to choose from. Try something new or stick with what you know!
- Choose to take part for a full year or a half year block.

What will I gain from Physical Education enrichment?

- Enjoyment, stress relief and challenge!
- Develop physical skills and the chance to keep fit.
- Improved team work and communication skills.
- Develop organisation and leadership skills.

DIY and Carpentry

You will be learning about putting up tiles, fitting out a bathroom, installing a new kitchen or working with wood, to complete your own projects. Learning how to do all of these things and a lot more will allow you to save huge amounts of money which you would otherwise be forced to give to tradesmen to do what you can easily do yourself, when you know how! I will give you the confidence to take on these types of projects and in the future, when you can only afford to have all your old radiators replaced or take your children on holiday, you can do it yourself and have both!

Practising Musicians

To join the Practicing Musicians course you must be able to play an instrument. Anything will do so long as you can make a decent noise on it. Over the year you will work as a team to create musical ensembles and solo items. We hope to present this as a concert in Ashbourne during the Summer term. The whole event (including booking the venue, refreshments, tickets and advertising) will be organised by you. There will also be an opportunity for you to compose and record your own music, take part in the first ever ‘QEGS Salsa Band’ using our brand new Salsa kit and bake cakes for the lessons (tea and coffee provided).
Better than Baked Beans / Cookery skills for all

This course will give you the skills, confidence and knowledge to prepare and cook meals when you leave home. You will learn how to make a wide range of cheap and simple meals to feed yourself, friends and family thus saving money on ready meals and avoid that embarrassing moment when you realise you don’t actually know how to boil an egg or cook pasta. Why not come and join us, ingredients will be provided you just need to turn up and bring a termly contribution. This is a half year option.

Dance Leaders

Dance leaders will begin by learning numerous dance styles and making up simple but effective choreography. It is the starting point for any student who wishes to develop their leadership skills and abilities in dance. You will be assessed on the way you lead not your dance performance. You will be given the knowledge to be an effective leader and be assessed on this when you put it into practice. You will learn ways to deliver dance in different situations and develop these using your own creative ability. You will go out into the local primary schools and assist in leading and have the opportunity to lead yourself. You will be given the opportunity to assist and even set up your own lunch time dance club. You will be known as a dance leader of QEGS and have a uniform that shows this (t-shirt/hoody).

Young Enterprise

Under the Company Programme students set up and run a real firm for a year under the guidance of a volunteer from the business world. You will get practical experience of the joys and pitfalls of creating a truly functioning enterprise.

You will do everything from raising the initial share capital through to designing and making your product or service to selling directly to customers at specially organized trade fairs. You can also compete against other schools as part of a national competition. QEGS has even won the national title in the past! You will be able to learn vital skills from finance to marketing. Through teamwork you have the chance to become the next Alan Sugar or Karen Brady!

Employers and universities look very favourably upon students who have taken part. The academic world recognizes the value of the scheme. An A level 3 OCR qualification is available to all students taking part in Company Programme. This is worth up to 40 UCAS points that count towards entry into university.

Case Study:

Amina Bryant- Warner Music’s Head of Brand Partnerships, believes Young Enterprise helped her discover her hunger for commercial success. Now, Amina works with artists including Professor Green, Eliza Doolittle and up and coming girl band Stooshe. She helps partner the record label’s singers and bands with different companies and brands.
Engineering Education Scheme

The EES is an EDT Programme which links teams of four Year 12 students and their teacher with local companies to work on real, scientific, engineering and technological problems.

The scheme is aimed at students who are studying Maths or a Science and are potentially considering Engineering as a career option.

You will be making a solution to a real company’s problem by working with an engineer.

GCSE Spanish

This is a two year GCSE course with Controlled Assessments during the course (Two Speaking tasks and two Writing tasks, 60% of final grade) and Final Examinations at the end of the second year (Listening and Reading papers, 40% of final grade).

Given that this is a completely new language you have not done at KS3, there will be pressures to cope with in order to reach the correct level before exams. This means a faster-than-usual pace in lessons (one double lesson a week only!) and regular homework to make up for lack of lesson time.

High commitment to working for this academic course will be expected.

If you did not take a language at GCSE this qualification could boost your chances of getting into some universities.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The Extended project is equivalent to half an A level (A level standard not AS) and carries the same UCAS points eg. 70 A* - 20 E. The qualification is highly regarded by Universities and employers as it develops skills in independent study and research.

The extended project is a single piece of work of your choosing that requires evidence of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. The project can be an extension of your existing programme of study (but must not be a repetition of a task that could be assessed as part of your AS or A levels) or arise from an area interest, possibly connected to study planned for university. You must;

- Chose an area of interest
- Draft a project title
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience

Your EPQ will be completed by the end of your Year 12 year and you will receive the certificate in January of Year 13.

Work Experience

If you are interested in going into highly competitive areas such as primary teaching which require a significant amount of work experience, we can explore supporting you in this enrichment time to do that. Please speak to Mrs Smith.
The QEGS Sewing Bee

If you like making things from fabric, then this is the enrichment activity for you. You will have the opportunity to make garments, accessories including jewellery bags and belts, soft furnishings including cushions and bean bags, toys, wall hangings, gifts, greetings cards, all manner of items made from fabric. We may even try some knitting, crochet, macramé, bobbin lace and felt making. You can learn how to adapt, alter and repair textiles products too. The course will be planned around the interests of those who opt to do it. If you would like further information, see Mrs March.

Film Studies

Film Studies at QEGS offers students the chance to improve their understanding of film as a communication tool, artistic medium and academic discipline. The programme seeks to encourage the development of student's creative talents in a professional environment that mirrors industry standards. During the course Students will:
- Produce short fiction and documentary films either individually or in groups.
- Have sessions introducing them to industry standard pre and post production techniques (examples are topics like screenwriting and editing).
- Study influential directors and analyse significant individual films.
- Learn about the history of film and culturally noteworthy movements within the medium.

Taking Film Studies at QEGS will equip students with the practical skills to begin a career in the growing UK film industry. With its links to professional production companies the course will seek to allow students the opportunity to practice what they have learnt in "real" settings and offer opportunities for work experience. The course will also be a great introduction to those who want to study film as an academic discipline at university.

The Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award

You'll have an adventure doing your Gold Award! The Gold Award consists of five sections; Service (Voluntary Work), Skills (Hobbies and Interests), Physical (Sports), Residential (A week away) and the Expedition itself (Canoe or Walking). Wednesday afternoons will give you an opportunity to achieve these sections and keep up to date with the Award. Achieving the Gold Award will give you skills, confidence and a view on life that everyone is looking for, from employers to colleges and universities. This will also be available as an Extra Curricular Activity.