

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity Chair of Governors: Mrs H Baker



12th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Coronavirus Bulletin

I hope you and your families are all safe and well.

VE Day:

Whilst lockdown and 'staying at home' may have limited the recent VE Day celebrations, our community certainly rose to the occasion in doing what they could in a safe manner to commemorate and remember. Well done to Mr Daughtry and Mr Keeling who turned QEGS red, white and blue - another illuminating achievement from these two great staff! Well done to our mayor Anne Smith and the Town Council for all of the local events and great news coverage of Bill Millward's military vehicle 'drive-by'. Carl and Mick Spencer's military vehicles looked fantastic once again, thank you! Our VE Day assembly and staff version of Churchill's speech was well received and so many of our students took the time to learn more about VE Day, well done everyone.

Staffing Update:

- We have received a record number of applications for our teaching vacancies at QEGS and we look forward to shortlisting and interviewing for our new staff in the next couple of weeks.
- Miss Matkin (Art) gave birth to a baby boy on Monday, both mum and baby are doing well.
- We also welcome back Mrs Howson to her Pastoral Support role. Great to have her back and sporting a lovely new hairstyle, well done Mrs Howson.

School Closure Update:

- Following the Government's announcement on May 1st, there has been no immediate change to our provision and we remain closed, except to the most vulnerable and children of Key Workers with no other childcare options.
- The Government has issued new guidance to secondary schools and they have requested that schools start to plan for some 'face to face support' for students in Yr10 and Yr12 from June 1st 2020.
- The Government also issued new guidance on health and safety in school settings and measures which must be in place for all secondary schools before any phased opening for Yr10 and 12. These conditions and measures mean that any phased opening will be of a very different school experience and will be far from the norm in whatever we are able to provide.
- We have already started this planning and we will update parents and students as soon as we have concrete details of what we can offer, to whom and when. Although we are some way from a detailed plan, we know that we are committed to ensuring that first and foremost, all of our students and staff are safe on the school site. We would much rather begin small-scale, safe and with high quality provision rather than commit to more than is safe to manage and compromise on quality.

I am sure whichever industry or sector you work in, you are also finding your way, adapting to new challenges and trying new ways of working. We are too! All of our leaders, at all levels across the school are meeting virtually each week or fortnightly to ensure that our pastoral and curriculum provision are the best they can possibly be. Whilst we face many challenges, we have great staff, who are working hard to teach

Proud to be part of the **QEGSMAT**


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and support all of our students and families. If you have any pastoral queries, please contact your child's Form Tutor in the first instance, or Progress Leader. If you have any curriculum queries around subjects and/or teaching and learning, please contact the relevant subject teacher, or Head of Department.

Stay safe, follow the Government advice and 'stay alert'.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Garrity', written in a cursive style.

Scott Garrity
Headteacher