

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

## Weekly Bulletin #5

On **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October**, lots of people will be marking **World Mental Health Day**. It is a global event designed to raise more awareness about mental health conditions.

There are two main goals of the event. The first is to educate people about mental health conditions. The second is to remove feelings of shame, worry or embarrassment about talking about or having these feelings.

The mental health charity 'Young Minds' are celebrating this day by promoting the 'Hello Yellow Campaign'. **On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October, we are asking all students and staff to wear something yellow in addition to their normal uniform** (a yellow accessory: socks, badge, headwear, flower and other creative ideas – sensible ideas of course!) This is to show our support that 'it's ok to not be ok'. Our staff team, will be hosting our weekly briefing in a slightly different way to help support each other and to recognise how taking time to meet and talk with each other should not be taken for granted. It would be great if you and your family could support this campaign and find something yellow to wear for Monday.

Today we welcomed 8yT back into school, this means we are back to a full compliment.

## Updates and Reminders

**Year 11 Mock Exams and Revision:** Year 11 Mock exams will take place November 9<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> (2 full weeks). All QEGS mock exams will be sat under exam conditions and will be based on authentic past/exemplar materials from the relevant exam boards. Our mock exam plans will help ensure that students are well prepared for any final exams in summer 2021 and/or any requirements for Centre Assessed Grades should exams be cancelled and/or modified by the DfE. All Year 11 students should now be revising and preparing to achieve and do their best in the forthcoming mock exams. Revision books, guides and materials were distributed to those students who ordered them at the start of term and they can only be beneficial if they come off the shelf and are used alongside classwork and homework. A mock exam schedule will be issued very soon and class teachers will also brief students on the structure and content of each exam. Good luck Year 11, do your best, these exams do count!

**Open Evening:** Our first ever Virtual Open Evening was held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October and it was a huge success with over 200 attendees. Thank you so much for the positive feedback. All of the resources are still available on our website and can be viewed at any time including some great videos from every department in the school – Mr Machin is a TV natural! Well done Mrs Barrie, Mr Daughtry and Mrs Starkie who have overseen this huge event and achievement.

**Face-coverings:** Another reminder that face-coverings should be worn on all school transport for the full duration of the journey to and from school. Students are putting others at risk if they choose to ignore this expectation. Ultimately, the transport providers may decide to withdraw a students' right to travel on the school bus if they continue to ignore the safety regulations in place.

**School Transport:** Seating plans for all of our school transport routes will be introduced and implemented from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Students will be told in form time on Monday which seat they have been allocated. Bus drivers will be given a seating plan and a list, school duty staff will be checking that all students sit in their designated

seat when the bus departs on Monday. A copy of the seating plan will be displayed in the front of each bus for students and parents to check the arrangements. Spot checks will be carried out each day as buses arrive and depart from school.

**After School Provision:** Our new system is working well so thank you to those who have booked in. To ensure we can keep the system as efficient as possible, please can you email [enquiries@qegs.email](mailto:enquiries@qegs.email) (**not** form tutor or progress leader) in the following situations:

- If you do not require provision that day
- If your child needs to leave before 3.55pm
- If you require last minute provision

**Parent Consultation Evenings:** A reminder that Year 13 PCE via telephone calls will be taking place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October. A separate letter has been sent with booking links – check in your emails if you missed this.

**Sixth Form Open Evening:** We will be holding a virtual Sixth Form open evening on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October. More details will follow in the next bulletin.

**Thank you:** To the Rotary Club for committing to funding £1000 for outside benching for students to use when eating their lunch – very much appreciated, thank you!

**Tutor Calls:** Form Tutor calls will be taking place during week commencing Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October for Year 8. A separate letter has been sent for booking a call.

Students and staff are doing a fantastic job of maintaining new routines to stay safe and are adapting to changing challenges such as wetter weather as the year progresses. Please remind your child that each measure and routine is in place to keep everyone safe, to keep the school open and to ensure as many students can continue to attend school. Following all staff instructions first time and every time, is essential to maintaining a safe school environment. Thank you to all of the parents we have spoken to over the last few weeks when there have been concerns. Your support helps ensure that your child and every other child is safe and learning in school.

Have a great weekend, stay safe and remember, hands, face and space.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity  
**Headteacher**