

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity Chair of Governors: Mr C Smith



9th February 2021

Dear Students and Parents/Carers

Year 12: International Arabic Project 2021 – Arabic for QEGS [Building Bridges]

Over the last few weeks, we have been setting up a link with GEMS Westminster School in Sharjah, our school and our excellent Modern Foreign Languages Department. Now, via this link, we are able to offer you an amazing opportunity to learn some Arabic. This free course will last for 10 fifty-minute sessions and cover a lot of great conversational basics including family, the alphabet, numbers, time, colours, food and occupations. Arabic is the fifth most spoken language in the world and is spoken by more than 420 million people.

The course will be delivered using MS Teams and be supervised by Mr Bawden and Mrs Fryer. This course has been made possible through our links with Mr Andrew Wilson, the Vice Principal of GEMS Westminster School, an Old Ashburnian and former teacher at QEGS. He has brought in their Head of Arabic Development, Mr Osama, and Mr Alaa, an Arabic Coach for Arabic speakers and non-speakers to deliver the course. Mr Alaa is a fan of Liverpool FC, but we will not hold that against him!

Due to the time differences between Ashbourne and the UAE we will need to run the course between 8am and 8.50am, which is their lunchtime. When we return to being on the school site for lessons we will look at a new time slot. The first session will be on Wednesday 24th February 2021, we will then have a session a week - missing out holidays.

Needless to say, this is an amazing opportunity for personal development, as well as for adding to CVs. Sadly, we only have around 20 places. At this stage we are seeking expressions of interest directly to Mr Bawden via email to bawden@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk

These expressions of interest should explain your reasons for wanting to take part in this ground-breaking course, focusing on your reasons for wanting to learn Arabic, and be no longer than 100 words. Mrs Allen and Mr Bawden will then review these expressions of interest and, should there be more expressions than we have places, make a decision about who goes forward to participate in the course. The deadline for expressing your interest is Friday 12th February 2021.

Yours faithfully

Mr Bawden
Assistant Headteacher