

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



28th May 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #32

QEGS School Day Plan for Sep 2021 V2:

Thank you for your feedback, questions and suggestions. We have considered your valuable input along with all other feedback from staff and other stakeholders. We have looked at what is logistically viable and we remain focused on ensuring that we achieve the benefits we stated in the initial communication.

- We have extended the breaks: AM break is now 20 mins and lunch is now 40 mins to ensure sufficient time for eating, drinking, toilet and socialising.
- We will be starting the school day slightly later at 08.50 and ending the school day slightly later at 15.15/15.20 to avoid traffic congestion pinch points (some local primary schools are changing their school day timings and we have made sure they do not clash).
- Our co-curricular programme and provision is something that you all feel is an important part of our school culture (AIP feedback) and we also feel it is important to use staff time for this purpose.
- We have allocated time, contractual time after lessons for our staff to make regular phone calls to parents/carers, little and often, avoiding any surprises, praising and addressing concerns.
- We will be having explicit GUEST time each morning to ensure our students are ready and prepared for the day ahead.
- Staggered departure times at the end of the day to avoid large numbers descending the drive, minimising risk and ensuring bus duty staff are in place and buses are ready to depart promptly once loaded.

School Day V2	
Event	Timings
Staff Duty	08.40 - 08.50
GUEST checks in Form Rooms	08.50 - 08.55
Form Time	08.55 - 09.15
Period 1	09.15 - 10.15
Period 2 inc staggered 20 min break	10.15 - 11.35
Period 3	11.35 - 12.35
Period 4 inc staggered 40 min lunch	12.35 - 14.15
Period 5	14.15 - 15.15
Staggered Departure/Staff Duty	15.15 - 15.20

Each full time member of staff will be required to staff/lead the equivalent of 1hr per fortnight of Co-curricular Programme provision

Feedback:

Your views and voice are key to what we do and how we do it. We are undertaking a similar process with staff, students and governors and we will consider this feedback before confirming the final details of our plans for September 2021.

If you have any questions/suggestions, please use this link <https://forms.office.com/r/c30wJutxZI>

We still have one or two logistical matters to finalise and we will be able to confirm our plans soon after half-term, ensuring families and staff have plenty of time to plan ahead.

COVID-19 and Our Half-Term: We MUST Test Twice Per Week

With the easing of Lockdown it will be more important than ever for us to continue testing twice per week. Around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 have no symptoms, and the new variants are certainly spreading out across our country. Those with the vaccine can still carry and spread COVID-19.

Always report the result of your test with both the NHS and school. If the result of a test is positive you must also ring our school COVID-19 telephone number **07890319042**. This number will be checked daily during the holidays, and someone will always ring you back.

We may also need to contact you if we are told of a positive case on either the first Saturday or Sunday. This may be to gather information, or to ask you to self-isolate.

Travelling Abroad Over Half-Term

If you are planning to travel abroad over the half-term break please avoid any destination which would result in your child missing school through any required quarantine period. Please inform student services, and your child's Progress Leader, of your intended destination and include details of countries that you may travel through to reach your destination [connecting flights/ferry ports]. This information will help us deal effectively with quarantine periods using the current Government 'traffic light system' when returning to school. Further information can be found in the [guidance on red, amber and green list rules for entering England](#).

Anti-Social Behaviour in the Community

Unfortunately, we are aware of a very small number of our students being involved in anti-social behaviour in the community outside of school hours. We do not condone this behaviour and if we receive any information, we will always work with the police. As we enter half term, please do speak to your children about appropriate behaviour in the community and how they represent themselves, their families and the school.

Joining the Head Student Team, Further Appointments of Responsibility

Sixth Form students were appointed after a competitive round of applications and interviews, at the beginning of May. After a full handover from the outgoing council, they have already held their first meeting and have lots of exciting plans for projects in Sixth Form and across the school for the coming year.

Aesthetics: Alice L and Robyn T

Charities: Berth McN and Fern B

Communications: Lauren M

Environment: Joshua P and Millie N

Events: Savita S, Helena Q and Oriana R

Externals: Ella McC

Inclusion and Student Safety: Evie S

Secretary: Isabel H

Treasurer: Charlie K

Sports: Abi S, Max W, Emily H and Gabby N

Wellbeing: Lucie C and Lucy C

Current Vacancies at QEGS

QEGS is looking for enthusiastic people to work in different areas of school; Careers Coordinator (maternity cover), Agricultural/Equine and Animal Care Tutor (Unqualified Teacher), Student Services/Receptionist and a new member for our Caretaking Team. Please take a look at the QEGSMAT Careers page <https://www.qegsmat.com/current-vacancies/> for further information and the links to apply to join an amazing team of staff.

Year 11 Leaver's Day

Wow, another great event on Thursday at QEGS for our Year 11 Leaver's Day, students were amazing and enjoyed a 'Red-Carpet BBQ', ice creams, popcorn, bouncy castle and 'Beat n' Traks' DJ to play their requested tracks to make the day memorable for everyone.

Thank you to all the staff who made this happen, with special thanks to Mrs Bowbanks, Progress Leader to Year 11. The weather was perfect too!



Farewell to Year 13!

The Year 13s celebrated their Leavers' event with a BBQ, Project D doughnuts and rounders, plus plenty of time for shirt signing and socialising. Awards were presented for (amongst others) the student most likely to succeed, worst parking, biggest gossip, and loudest argument - all voted on by the students with "Oscars" presented by members of staff, there to join them for this occasion. It was lovely to see them all enjoying being together, something which they have missed in this last year. And of course, finally, the weather helped! Thanks to all staff on the BBQ and well done to the Events team, Molly and Hannah, for organising, and the new Sports Captains for co-ordinating the rounders.



Congratulations to Mrs Statham on the birth of her baby boy and Mrs Allen on the birth of her baby girl.

Thank you for your ongoing support. It has been a difficult school year, but also a year that makes me very proud of what our students and staff have achieved. If you can find a few minutes, it would be amazing if you and/or your child could #thankateacher for National Thank a Teacher Day on 23rd June 2021.

<https://thankateacher.co.uk/national-thankateacherday/>

Have a safe and restful half-term. Take care.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Garrity'.

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher