



17<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer and Year 9 students

## Personal Development Week 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July – Year 9

For the final week of the summer term (15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July) students in Years 7-9 will follow an enhanced programme of Personal Development. Personal Development is an essential part of our curriculum and the holistic education we offer and was commended by Ofsted in January 2024.

The aims of the Personal Development week will be to enhance skills and build cultural capital by having experiences outside of the classroom. The timetable for students during this week will be very different to normal subject routines. Students will engage in a range of day-long activities and trips linked to various curriculum areas. Please see below a summary of the planned trips and activities for your child. All visits are within the school day (will not depart before 8.50am and will return before 3.20pm).

| QEGS House | Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July                   | Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July                  | Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July  | Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July                 |
|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Boothby    | Escape Rooms                                   | Travel project in conjunction with Hays Travel | Museum of Gaming in Sheffield  | English in house event                         |
| Cokayne    | English in house event                         | Escape Rooms                                   | Harry Potter – In house Travel project in conjunction with Hays Travel | Museum of Gaming in Sheffield                  |
| Hull       | Museum of Gaming in Sheffield                  | English in house event                         | Escape Rooms   | Travel project in conjunction with Hays Travel |
| Spalden    | Travel project in conjunction with Hays Travel | Museum of Gaming in Sheffield                  | English in house event   | Escape Rooms                                   |

**Escape Rooms** – We have a company coming in to put students through their paces with a range of challenging problem-solving activities. Puzzle time! Designed to not only develop problem solving skills but also resilience in the face of difficulty and teamwork.

**English Department** – “Communication is the solvent of all problems and is the foundation for personal development.”

How we communicate has and is changing, but still, at the heart of effective relationships, be those personal, social or professional, is effective talk. From presenting yourself at interview, to being part of a workplace, to raising your children, the ability you have to talk effectively will help to determine the successfulness of these relationships. 'Talk the Talk' help to instil lifelong skills that will improve confidence around verbal communication that will underpin work being done here at QEGS to develop effective communicators who can talk the talk, whatever the situation.

**Museum of Gaming Sheffield** – Students will go to the museum and be able to play retro computer games and learn about the story of the industry. They will also take part in a workshop to use code to develop their own gaming character.

**Travel Project** – Hays Travel have kindly agreed to invite students into their shop to learn about the travel industry. They will then work on a project set by the company which will involve budgeting, target marketing and the use of foreign language skills.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July** will be a fun experience day. Details of trips and activities for this day are being finalised and you will receive details shortly.

We aim to deliver a balance of good quality educational experiences and affordability for families. We are giving plenty of advance notice so that we can secure the lowest prices by booking ahead for transport and visits, to support families by providing plenty of time to make their voluntary contributions and so we can fully support those families in receipt of free school meals. However, if the recommended voluntary contributions do not cover the costs of the planned trips, then they will be unable to go ahead as planned and alternative arrangements will be made.

The voluntary contribution for your child for all visits from Monday to Thursday of this week will be £56.00. This will be available to pay on ParentPay\* from 17<sup>th</sup> April and no later than 13<sup>th</sup> May.

If you require financial support with these trips, please contact [starkiek@qegs.email](mailto:starkiek@qegs.email). Any other queries please direct to your child's Head of Year *insert correct email address*. [wilband@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:wilband@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)

We look forward to a fun packed, educational week of Personal Development. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Kate Morgan

**Careers & Vocational Studies Lead**

*\*by clicking the “consent” button on ParentPay to confirm the payment detailed above, you are also confirming that the emergency contact and medical details we have on our system are correct for your child. Please inform me as a matter of urgency should there be any changes to the details we hold.*