

May 2011

Dear Parents/Carers

Please find accompanying this letter a brief information update which includes, amongst other items, a summary of the key results from the Parental Perceptions Survey which took place in March this year and a commentary on how the school plans to respond positively to the range of points raised.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents who took the time to respond to the survey. Many of you not only completed the standard questions but also provided individual additional comments which have been very interesting and very helpful. As these comments are returned to us anonymously by the organisation responsible for the survey, Kirkland Rowell, we are unable to respond to each one individually but please be assured that they have been considered carefully and play a role in influencing the school's future direction and development.

### **School Equipment – June 2011 - Years 10 and 11**

While the great majority of students arrive at school with the required equipment: a pen, a pencil, a ruler, a calculator, their planner and a bag to carry them in along with their books and files, we have noticed issues arising because some students are not in possession of these key items. We will, therefore, be checking these items more regularly from the start of the new academic year in June and, in particular, students who do not arrive at school with an appropriate bag will be referred to the year office for follow up action in the same way as we manage uniform issues. It would, therefore, be very helpful if you could ensure that your child has all of the key items of equipment and a suitable bag to carry them to and from school. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Neil Morrison  
Headteacher

# QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL – INFORMATION UPDATE

## PARENTAL PERCEPTIONS SURVEY 2011

### Prepared and presented by Kirkland Rowell Marketing

Of the 700 questionnaires which were distributed in a random sample 303 were returned representing a 43.3% response rate. The main headlines are as follows:

- The parents gave a very good overall performance score (76%).
- Among the parents whose children were not in their first year at the school, 17% said the school had improved over the last year, while only 6% thought that the school's performance was worse.
- Of the parents of new pupils, only 7% felt that the school had not lived up to their expectation while 16% said the school was better than they expected it to be.

In non-academic areas, parents are most happy with the choice of subjects, school communication and truancy control; while they are least happy with school facilities, availability of resources and computer access.

As well as these general areas, the survey gives us additional results regarding academic subjects and these will be shared with departmental teams.

The parents' top priority for improvement is school facilities.

The results noted above are only a small part of the detailed analysis we get from Kirkland Rowell and there are other aspects of the school's performance that either give rise to satisfaction or present challenges to overcome. These are all fed into our whole school review process which then generates our school improvement plan. For example, from last year it was clear that parents did not feel we did enough to celebrate and reward student achievement which led us to consult the School Council to get their input into how we should improve this area. The result is a new system for rewarding STARS, and a new occasion has been added to the School Calendar this year when the efforts of our Year 9 and Year 10 students will be recognised at a Celebratory Achievement Evening.

#### **Exam Results will be available for students to collect on the dates detailed below.**

GCE Exam Results – Thursday 18 August 2011  
GCSE Exam Results – Thursday 25 August 2011

Further information on how students can collect results will be circulated towards the end of the summer term.

#### **Start of Autumn Term 2011**

Year 9 students will join QEHS on Tuesday 6 September 2011  
Years 10 and 11 will return to school on Wednesday 7 September 2011

#### **Key Sixth Form Dates**

##### **Thursday 1 September and Friday 2 September**

Interviews for Year 12 students who have not met their course entry requirements  
Interviews for Year 13 students who have not passed at least 3 AS levels or equivalent.

##### **Monday 5 September**

Interviews for Year 12 students who have achieved course entry requirements but wish to discuss possible option changes.

##### **Tuesday 6 September**

One-to-one interviews for all Year 13 students with their tutor to discuss their programmes of study, summer results, possible re-sits and progression.

**Wednesday 7 September** - Year 12 and Year 13 lessons start.

## QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL

### SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2011/12

HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE	DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE	DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE
<b>TEACHER DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2011</b>	
Summer 2011	Thursday 21 July 2011	Tuesday 6 September 2011
Autumn Mid Term 2011	Friday 21 October 2011	Tuesday 1 November 2011
<b>TEACHER DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2011</b>	
Christmas/New Year 2011/2012	Fri 16 December 2011	Tuesday 3 January 2012
<b>TEACHER DAYS</b>	<b>THURSDAY 9, FRIDAY 10 AND FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2012</b>	
Spring Mid-Term 2012	Wednesday 8 February 2012	Monday 20 February 2012
Easter 2012	Friday 30 March 2012	Monday 16 April 2012
<b>MAY DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 7 MAY 2012</b>	
Summer Mid-Term 2012	Friday 1 June 2012	Monday 11 June 2012
Summer 2012	Friday 20 July 2012	Tuesday 4 September 2012
<b>TEACHER DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2012</b>	

Note: Teacher Training Dates stated above are provisional until approved by the Governing Body