

September 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

As we start a new year, I would like to pass on to you some information that I hope you will find helpful for the coming year and also give you an early indication of the school's examination performance in the summer.



EXAMINATION RESULTS – SUMMER 2010

GCSE

GCSE results were a school record this year. The proportion of students gaining 5+ A*-C grades including English and maths rose by 5% to 72%. This is the first time the school has ever achieved over 70% for this indicator.

The proportion of students gaining 5+ A*-C (level 2 threshold) grades rose to 85% - another school record.

No student left QEHS without any formal qualification.

A Level

Again, A level results are another very positive story with significant improvements in all key categories.

- Pass rate rose to 99%
- The proportion of entries gaining A* or A grades rose to 34% from 21%
- 11% of entries (63) gained the new A* grade - well above the national average of 8%
- Both average points score per student and average points score per entry rose significantly
- Over 30 students gained 3 or 4 A*/A grades

We are obviously delighted about all of the achievements of our students in the summer and will be working very hard again this year to try to at least emulate this year's success.

Student Data Checking Sheets

Enclosed is a copy of your child's contact data we currently hold on our system. Please check the information carefully and return the sheet to us in the envelope provided no later than Friday 1 October 2010. Please note that sheets should be returned even if no changes are required.

Holidays During Term Time

Accompanying this letter is a leaflet which has been agreed by all schools in the Hexham Partnership. It gives guidance on how requests for absence will be dealt with.

E-Safety Software

Details are attached regarding some free computer software that you may wish to take advantage of related to the on-line safety of your child.

Road Safety

Whetstone Bridge Road and Allendale Road can become very congested at the start and the end of the school day. Please help us to ensure the safety of students entering and leaving school by dropping off or collecting your son/daughter a short distance from the school.

Calendar

The full QEHS Events Calendar 2010-2011 and QEHS Assessment Calendar 2010-2011 are available on the school website – www.qebs.net (from the home page click on the school tab and then calendar tab). The assessment calendar will inform you of deadlines for important coursework and assessments; the events calendar details parents' evenings; school visits etc.

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Academic Tutoring – On-line Reporting to Parents

The first round of academic tutoring for the 2010-2011 academic year is scheduled to take place as follows:


Wednesday 3 November 2010	During tutorial each student will be given their latest subject monitoring data and they will be able to note this in their planner.
Monday 8 to Friday 19 November 2010	During this period each student will have a meeting on a one to one basis with their academic tutor to discuss progress and review targets set at the previous meeting.
Monday 8/Tuesday 9 November 2010	*Data will be uploaded on Monday 8 November and parents/carers will be able to access their child's latest monitoring data on-line from Tuesday 9 November.

To access data on-line for your child please follow the guidelines issued to you last year. If you have any problems accessing your child's information or have misplaced your user name and password please contact Sue Boath, Data Manager (01434 610338) or email sboath@qehs.net

*Parents and Carers who have not used the system previously (i.e. did not have a child at QEHS last year) and therefore do not currently have an account set up to link in to our on line reporting system, e-portal, will be issued with full details, user names and passwords in the next few weeks.

Can I finally thank you in advance for your support this year which is so vital to the success of our students.

Yours sincerely



Neil Morrison
Headteacher

Additional Information for Students New to QEHS September 2010

Ofsted Inspection

Just before we broke up for the summer break, we received a letter from Ofsted informing us that the results of our interim assessment showed that the school's performance has been sustained since our last inspection in March 2007 and that our next full inspection can therefore be deferred. In carrying out their interim assessment Ofsted considered the following

- pupils' academic performance
- pupils' attendance
- any visits carried out by Ofsted since the last inspection
- complaints about the school by parents or carers
- any other significant issues brought to Ofsted's attention

A copy of the full letter to parents from Ofsted can be viewed on our website (www.qehs.net – click on the parents tab and then the publications tab).

Privacy Notice

A copy of the Privacy Notice which gives an explanation of how the school handles data that refers to your child was included in information distributed to you prior to your child starting at QEHS. An updated copy of the Privacy Notice can be found on the publications page of our website (www.qehs.net – click on the parents tab and then the publications tab) or you can telephone school to request a hard copy of this information.