

Friday 6 March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Summer Term Performing Arts Selection

Since September, students have been participating in a rotation of Performing Arts subjects, spending time exploring Drama, Dance, Media Studies, and Music. This rotation has given every student the opportunity to experience the breadth of our creative curriculum and develop a wide range of artistic and analytical skills.

We are now approaching the end of this rotational period. For the upcoming Summer Term, students will move away from the rotation model and instead choose one of these four subjects in which to specialise for the remainder of the academic year.

The Importance of Performing Arts

We believe that the Performing Arts are a vital component of a well-rounded education. Beyond the artistic techniques learned, these subjects cultivate essential transferable skills that are highly valued in the modern workplace and essential for personal development.

Here is a brief overview of what students gain from each discipline:

Drama: specific focus on communication, empathy, and public speaking. Drama builds the confidence to present ideas clearly and work collaboratively in a team—skills necessary for any future career path.

Dance: promotes physical discipline, spatial awareness, and resilience. It requires students to commit to muscle memory and focus, fostering a strong work ethic and physical well-being.

Media Studies: develops critical thinking and digital literacy. In an information-heavy world, the ability to analyze media messages, understand representation, and navigate digital platforms is a crucial life skill.

Music: enhances listening skills, pattern recognition, and logical thinking. Learning music has been proven to support cognitive development and teaches the value of patience and persistence in mastering a skill.



GCSE Considerations

For students who are considering taking Drama, Dance, Media Studies, or Music as a GCSE option, this choice is particularly important. We strongly advise these students to select the subject they intend to study at GCSE level. The Summer Term will serve as a foundational period, allowing them to deepen their understanding and get a "head start" on the skills and terminology required for the GCSE course. Please note that pupil preferences in the options process are likely to determine whether or not a course is able to run.

The Selection Process & Class Sizes

Please complete this [google form](#) for subject selection. Please discuss this choice with your child to ensure they select the subject that best aligns with their interests and future academic goals. **The deadline for submission is Friday 20th March.** After this date, students will be placed where there are spaces available.

Please Note: While we strive to grant every student their first choice, we are bound by strict safety limits regarding class sizes in practical spaces (studios and computer labs). Therefore, allocations will be processed based on preferences where possible. In the event a subject is oversubscribed, we will do our very best to accommodate everyone, but we ask for your understanding that we may need to look at second preferences.

Thank you for your continued support of the Performing Arts at QE . We look forward to seeing the students thrive in their chosen specialism next term.

Yours sincerely,

A. Payne

Alexandra Payne
Head of Performing Arts