

24 September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, and Guardians,

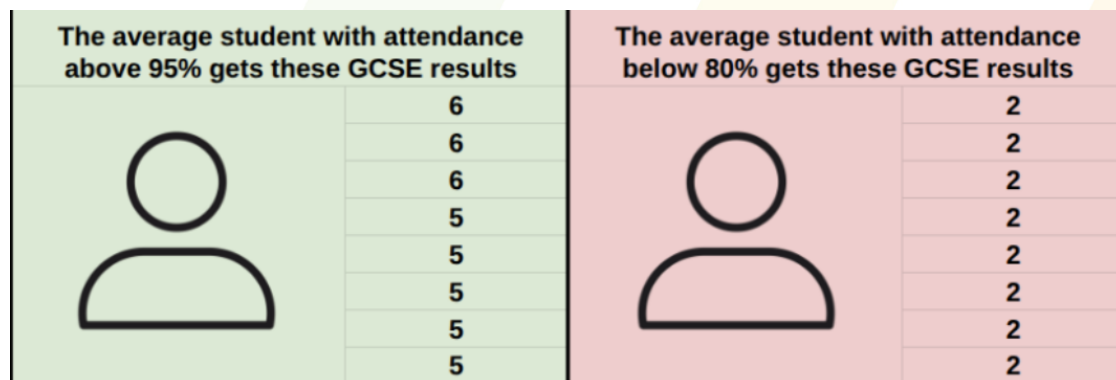
RE: Welcome to the New Academic Year: Start of Term Updates

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. It has been a busy and productive start to the new academic year at Queen Elizabeth's School, and it is a pleasure to welcome back our returning students. I extend a warm welcome on behalf of all at QE to all those joining our school community and hope you are settling in well.

As we settle into the new term, I am writing to share several important operational updates and reminders to ensure a smooth, productive, and successful year for all of our young people.

1. Attendance and Punctuality

Excellent attendance and punctuality are fundamental to your child's academic progress, wellbeing, and overall success at school. The link between good attendance and exam outcomes that enable students to progress to their post-16 and post-18 destinations is very clear. The infographic below demonstrates the impact that good attendance can have on outcomes:



We are here to help and we ask for your continued support in ensuring students arrive on time every day, ready to learn. If your child is experiencing any difficulties that may impact their attendance or punctuality, please do not hesitate to reach out for support. Our Heads of Year and Pastoral Managers are available to help and work alongside families to provide guidance and solutions.

Pastoral staff details:

- Year 9: Mr Jackson (HOY) and Mrs Foster (PM). Ajackson@queenelizabeths.com
- Year 10: Miss Topliss (HOY) and Mrs Allsopp (PM) Ktopliss@queenelizabeths.com
- Year 11: Mrs Mynard (HOY) and Ms Huggett (PM) Tmynard@queenelizabeths.com
- Sixth Form: Miss Dean (Head of Sixth Form), Mr Cook (Deputy Head of Sixth Form). Sdean@queenelizabeths.com , jcook@queenelizabeths.com and Mrs Riding, Sixth Form Office manager and Pastoral support

Or you can email office@queenelizabeths.com and your contact will be directed to the appropriate colleague.

2. School Uniform Standards

We take great pride in our school uniform, as it fosters a sense of identity and belonging. Please ensure that all students meet our high expectations regarding school dress:

- **Footwear:** Plain, formal black school shoes must be worn (no trainers or canvas shoes).
- **Piercings:** Only permitted items in accordance with our uniform policy may be worn. Please note that piercings which cannot be removed constitute a health and safety risk for students.
- **Nails:** Nails must be kept at an appropriate, natural length without acrylics or bold polish.

Full details and visual guidance regarding our uniform expectations can be found on the school website. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain these standards.

3. Medication on School Premises

For safety and safeguarding reasons, **students must not carry any medication with them during the school day.** This includes over-the-counter painkillers as well as prescription medicines. All medication must be brought to the medical room/main office by a parent or carer, along with the appropriate consent documentation, where it will be stored securely and administered safely by our qualified staff. (please see our policy [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions](#))

4. Student Planners and Time Management

Student planners have been issued to all pupils. Planners are an essential tool for helping students develop independence, manage their workload, and build good habits. Please encourage your child to record all homework tasks clearly in their planner every day. We also ask parents and carers to check and sign planners weekly to support your child in managing their time effectively.

5. Upcoming Key Dates and Events

We have a busy and exciting term ahead. Please make a note of the following upcoming dates:

- **Thursday, 01 October 2026:** Year 11 and Year 13 Success Evening (*Focusing on key strategies for exam success*)
- **Sunday 04 October 2026** - deadline for ordering Y9/Y12 photos from Fraser Portraits
- **Wednesday, 07 October 2026:** Open Morning 9am - 10am
- **Friday, 16 October 2026:** Open Morning 9am - 10am
- **Friday, 16 October 2026:** Welcome Service in Wimborne Minster

Further details regarding attendance and arrangements for specific events will be sent out closer to the time.

6. QE Survey and Newsletter

If you can spare five minutes to complete our first parental survey of the year, I would be very grateful:

[Parent Survey](#)

Our next **QE Newsletter** will be published next week. It will feature highlights from across the school, including a look back at our recent Year 11 and Year 13 Presentation Evening, alongside updates on many other exciting events and student achievements. Keep an eye out for it in your inbox!

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing partnership and support. Working together, I am confident that this term will be filled with growth, achievement, and success for all our students.

Yours sincerely,



Thomas Neill

Headteacher

Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne

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