

KEB/cl

18th November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

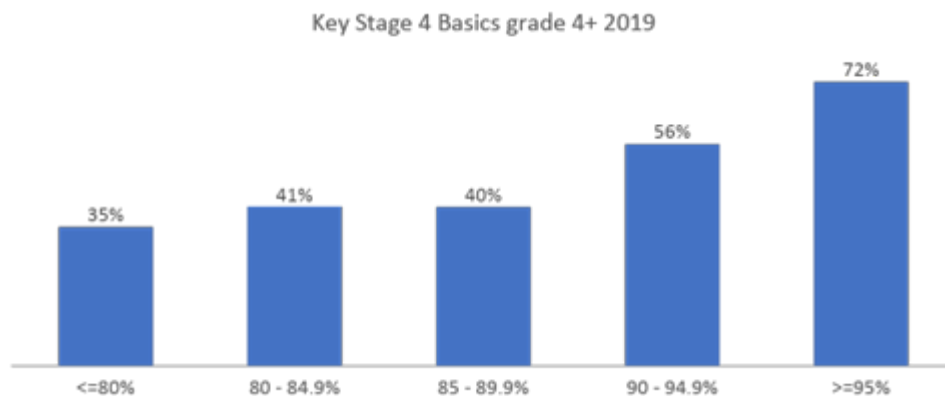
We are delighted to inform you that the tickets for the forthcoming musical Shrek are now on sale. Students from QE and our feeder middle schools continue to work hard in their preparations for the show. Tickets can be purchased from the following link <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/queenelizabethsschool>.

Year 11 PPE Exams

Our Year 11 students have now completed the first week of their PPE examinations and we would like to congratulate them for the way in which they have approached these exams. They are a vital part of the students' preparation for their final exams in the summer, allowing them to develop their exam technique and providing students and teachers with information on any gaps in knowledge and understanding.

Attendance

Evidence from across Dorset secondary and upper schools show that 72% of students with 95% attendance and above go on to achieve grade 4 or above GCSEs falling to 35% when attendance is below 80%



At Queen Elizabeth's School in 2022, students with 95% or above on average achieved at least one GCSE grade above their target grade, while students with attendance below 80% on average achieved at least ½ GCSE grade below their target grade.

DID YOU KNOW

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to exam success
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By year 11, attendance is a better predictor of achievement rates than SAT test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Make school attendance a priority
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your children are not missing class because of challenges with behavioural issues or school behaviour policies. If any of these are problems, contact your child's tutor and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your child's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your child to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Notice and support your children if they are showing signs of anxiety. Communicate with the school. We have support in place via our counselling team and the Mental Health in Schools practitioners.
- Know the school's and Trust attendance policy. This is available on the school website
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up. If you don't have the SIMS App email simsapp@queenelizabeths.com.
- Seek help from the tutor, Head of House, Safeguarding and attendance team or other agencies if you need support. Links are available on the safeguarding area of the school website.

Christmas Teen Project for students aged 11-16

Please click on the following link to book a place at a local Christmas workshop for your child. These will be running from the 19th-21st December and are available to students in receipt of free school meals: <https://personalbesteducation.com/teens/teen-projects/>

Bus Communication

The checking of bus passes will commence during morning travel by the bus services and will continue to be monitored by us as a school at the end of the day. Please can we ask that all students who are entitled to a pass or who have purchased one have these with them on a daily basis.

If a student is yet to receive their pass, you have moved house, or you need to make any amendment to the service that has been allocated then you must contact Go South Coast on 01202 338421 or customer.services@gosouthcoast.co.uk to ensure this is actioned.

Replacement passes can also be ordered with them.

All students must travel on the correct bus service with the correct information. Temporary passes will only be issued by the school for extreme circumstances as allocation of seats is the responsibility of the transport operator.

UCAS

Year 13 are in the process of completing their UCAS application. The QE deadline is Thursday 15th December which then gives students time to prepare for their PPEs in January. Please see further information on the Sixth Form bulletin.

Sixth Form Applications

For parents and carers of students in Year 11. It was fantastic to see so many at the Sixth Form Open Evening on the 10th November. The application process is now open for Year 12 in September 2023. All of the information can be found on the Sixth Form page of the website [here](#)

Wimborne Food Bank-

We are still collecting Christmas selection boxes in aid of Wimborne Food Bank, please can students drop these into their house bins based at reception by **Monday 28th November**.



Wimborne Food Bank are also creating 'warm bags' and are looking for the following **new/unused items:**

- Blankets
- Hats
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Socks
- Hot water bottles

Should you wish to donate any of the above, then these can also be dropped to reception before the **15th December**.

SEND Coffee Morning

We are holding a coffee morning for Year 10 parents on Thursday 24th November from 9am to 10am. This is an opportunity to meet members of our SEND team and other parents to talk about any worries or anxieties your child may have about school. We look forward to seeing you.

Parent Academy Committee vacancy

There is a vacancy for a parent representative on the Academy Committee. If you are interested in this position and would like an informal discussion about the role of a member of the Academy Committee then please email the Chair, Jane Mursell, using the following contact email address hrichards@wimborneacademytrust.org

Second Hand Uniform

If anyone has any recent QE Ties (the ones that are house colours) that are no longer being used, we would be very grateful for some donations towards our Second Hand Uniform shop. These will then be purchased by other students for a small donation price so that the ties can be reused. Thank you.

If you have any questions or concerns then please make contact with your child's tutor who will be able to support or direct your concern to the correct member of staff.

Yours sincerely



Katie Boyes
Headteacher

Key Dates

w/c Monday 14th November	Year 11 PPE exams (run for 2 weeks)
Wednesday 7th December	Carol Service at Wimborne Minster
Thursday 15th December	Last Day of Term (early finish at 1pm to allow for presentation event to take place from 3pm)
Friday 16th December	Staff Training Day - no students in school
Monday 19th December	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 3rd January 2023	Staff Training Day
Wednesday 4th January	First day of term - all students in school
Thursday 5th January	Year 11 Parents Evening (face to face in school)
Thursday 12th January	Year 9 Options Evening
26th, 27th & 28th January	Shrek the Musical Performances
Thursday 2nd February	Year 9 Parents Evening (face to face in school)
13th to 17th February	Half Term
Monday 20th February	Staff Training Day - no students in school
Thursday 23rd February	Year 13 Parents Evening (online)
Thursday 23rd March	Year 11 Parents Evening (online)
Friday 31st March	Staff Training Day - no students in school
3rd to 14th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 17th April	First day of term - all students in school

Communication and Information

The first point of contact for parents in all instances is your child's tutor.

You child's tutor is supported by the Head of House:

Lancaster: Mr J Mead	jmead@queenelizabeths.com
Stuart: Mrs T Mynard	tmynard@queenelizabeths.com
Tudor: Mr C Finean	cfinean@queenelizabeths.com
Wessex: Mrs G Heighway	gheighway@queenelizabeths.com
York: Mrs C Taylor-Gallop	ctaylor-gallop@queenelizabeths.com

Our school website contains all of the key information about school and is updated regularly.
www.queenelizabeths.com

We are also using our social media platforms to communicate key dates and events with parents

Facebook	www.facebook.com/qedorset/
Twitter	twitter.com/QESDorset
Instagram	www.instagram.com/qesdorset/