

QUEEN ANNE HIGH SCHOOL

Broomhead Parks, Dunfermline, KY12 0PQ
queenannehs.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
01383 602404



Ruth McFarlane - Rector

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of session 2015-16 please find a range of information for your attention:

STRUCTURE OF THE SCHOOL WEEK

As you will be aware the new structure to the school week was implemented at the change of timetable on 7 June. This has enabled all national qualification (NQ) courses to begin supporting 4 weeks of learning prior to the summer holiday. We are pleased with the improvements experienced to date including weekly assemblies facilitating increased communication and also senior phase pupils attending Fife College on a Monday and/or Wednesday afternoon are not missing national qualifications (NQ) as this is when we have timetabled core lessons and not NQs.

BUSES FROM AUGUST

Fife Council have informed us that eleven of the fourteen buses which service Queen Anne High School will come in line with the new structure from August. There are three exceptions: QA1 (Townhill/Bowershall – Blue), QA12 (Crossford – Brown) and QA14 (Kingseat - Blue). These buses will not leave QAHS until 15.40. We share the frustration around this issue and unfortunately it is completely outwith the control of the school. We will ensure that there is a supervised study club on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for the 86 pupils affected. Bus passes and details of bus routes are sent directly to pupils entitled to free transport during the school summer holiday.

SCHOOL LEAVER DESTINATION DATA

This data has just been released by the Scottish Government and we are delighted to note that more young people from Queen Anne High School have secured and sustained places at university than any other school in Fife (48.6%). Additionally, as a total figure young people securing and sustaining a positive destination (university, college, employment, training, volunteering and activity agreements) is also amongst the very best.

SQA NATIONAL QUALIFICATION LEAVERS DATA

The academic attainment of pupils has improved year on year as illustrated in the table below at all levels. This reflects the hard work of pupils, families and staff.

The data notes the percentage of pupils achieving these national qualifications

	2013	2014	2015
5+ SCQF level 5 (National 5)	54	58	65
5+ SCQF level 6 (Higher)	31	35	40
1+ SCQF level 7 (Advanced Higher)	28	32	38



www.fifedirect.org.uk

SENIOR PUPIL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Following exceptionally high quality pupil applications and presentations we are delighted to with the following appointments:

Arianne Holland Lauryn Cassells	Head Girl Depute Head Girl	Aaron Jack Andrew Waterworth	Head Boy Depute Head Boy
---	--------------------------------------	--	------------------------------------

We also have appointed 130 Senior Prefects which is a wonderful reflection on the year group. It is hoped that these pupils will take a lead role in a variety of pupil working groups (involving pupils from all year groups) driving forward issues that matter most to them and that link with the School Quality & Improvement Plan next session.

PUPIL VOICE

Over the last two weeks we have held open forum Question & Answer sessions with S5 and S6 in the assembly hall to enable pupils to express their views and ask questions on issues they feel require clarification. Pupils have responded to this forum in a mature and responsible manner. We have welcomed the points raised by pupils and have been keen to demonstrate to them that when they express views in a rational, respectful and responsible manner we will listen and will work with them.

In order to demonstrate that this is indeed the case we have modified arrangements around the entry/exit points enabling increased pupil access at intervals. We have also created an 'S6 Space' at intervals and lunchtimes which is unsupervised and pupils have full responsibility for. This pilot initiative places responsibility in the hands of the pupils.

Pupil voice will be key priority for us next session. Senior pupils have already been surveyed on themes/topics which they feel they require increased awareness of and we are currently building a programme of external speakers around their suggestions to be delivered one period per week during their Health & Wellbeing time from August.

SUPPORT FOR PUPILS

We have some significant developments in place to better support our increasing pupil diversity. These include:

- Literacy Boost Programme: 20% of S1 and S2 pupils have been targeted and their improvements will be tracked throughout an accelerated reading recovery programme delivered by English specialist staff in small group environments one period per week. This is delivered during their third language period each week. It is hoped this intense 'boost' will increase confidence with literacy and also better prepare pupils for the transition into the Senior Phase enabling all to better access the curriculum.
- Nurture Hub: This group is founded on evidence-based practices and offers a short term, inclusive, focussed intervention. Pupils are supported by two trained members of staff (one teacher and one level 3 PSA). The Nurture group will assess learning and social and emotional needs and give whatever help is needed to remove the barriers to learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support throughout the session and should you have any concern at all about your child's education please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks and I hope you have a wonderful summer.



Ruth McFarlane
Rector