



**Queen Anne High School**  
**Weekly E-Bulletin**  
**22 - 26 June 2020**

Broomhead Parks, Dunfermline KY12 0PQ

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🌐 [qahs.org.uk](http://qahs.org.uk)

## **Education Update**

Following on from the Deputy First Minister's statement on Tuesday we are hopeful and delighted that QAHS pupils will be able to return to school in August.

If the current trajectory continues i.e. the national infection rate remains sufficiently low, public health data doesn't indicate any increased risk and all relevant risk assessments are in place, then pupils should be able to return without any requirement for physical distancing.

Over the last few weeks we have been involved in extensive planning to prepare a QAHS Recovery Plan in response Scottish Government's Coronavirus (COVID19): reopening schools guidance. This involved determining our maximum capacity to get as many young people back to school within 4 principles identified in the advice:

- **Ensuring 2m physical distancing and reducing pupil interaction** by incorporating a 'big-block timetable' (two learning blocks each day: a morning block and afternoon block) to minimise pupil movement
- **Hygiene measures** including regular hand washing/ hand sanitisation and classroom cleaning routines.
- **School Transport:** Approximately 50% of QAHS travel to school on the bus
- **Workforce Planning:** Every class of 30 young people had to be divided into three groups of 10 therefore increasing the number of teachers and teaching spaces required by 200%

The QAHS Recovery Plan is now in finalised draft having been revised using feedback received from the QAHS staff engagement sessions and from the QAHS Parent Council. We have also shared plans with elected members. This is now our contingency plan should there any changes over the summer preventing all pupils returning in August. We will upload this to the school website next week so that it is available to everyone throughout the holiday period.

We sincerely hope that the current positive trajectory continues throughout the summer and we never have to use our contingency plan. It is however reassuring that we have this in place.

We anticipate further local and national advice w/c 3 August. The Senior Leadership Team will respond to this advice and share any information required for pupils returning to school with you thereafter.

## **School Dress**

Following changes in H&S advice any modifications to school dress no longer seem to be required. Therefore, unless we are required to implement the QAHS Contingency Recovery Plan **full school dress will be expected when young people return to school in August** i.e. black school trousers/skirt, black shoes, white shirt with stiff collar which fastens to the neck and a QAHS tie.

We are hopeful that retail outlets and school uniform suppliers will open over the summer enabling purchase of these items.

## **QAHS Blended Learning Approach and Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy**

There has been significant misinformation and confusion in the public domain around what blended learning is. Within QAHS we clearly defined our approach and hope to continue to progress and develop the pedagogical approaches underpinning this i.e. flipped learning, greater learner responsibility for learning and development of digital literacy skills.

Over the last few years the school has invested significantly in improving the digital infrastructure. We will be continuing with our improvement and investment programme. From August all pupils will be able to bring their own digital device to school to use in class to support learning e.g. laptop, tablet or mobile phone. We will be launching this from August and further details will follow. The QAHS BYOD Policy is available on the school website.

### **SQA Post-Certification Review (Appeals) - August 2020**

This week the SQA published details of the Post-Certification Review (Appeals) process. This process is different to previous years and is in response to the cancellation of the 2020 exam diet.



Details can be viewed on the SQA website [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

The SQA will provide schools with a list of candidates whose grades have been downgraded and who are therefore eligible for an appeal. From Tuesday 4 August, QAHS will contact candidates on this list to inform them that the school will progress with an appeal and to secure their consent for doing so. Consent from the candidate is required as the outcome of an appeal could result in the candidate's grade going down as well as up.

**The Rector along with Pamela Davie (S5/6 DHT) and Iain Macdonald (S4 DHT) will be available on Tuesday 4 August, 12.00pm – 4.00pm to discuss over the phone any aspect of this process with pupils and parents/carers. Please call the school on 01383 602404. Please note that we are unable to meet face-to-face due to the current restrictions in place.**

Candidates who have not achieved the grades required for their conditional offer at college or university should call the school on Tuesday 4 August to discuss whether they are eligible for an appeal.

All pupils are strongly encouraged to register with MySQA to receive SQA updates and exam results directly to their mobile phone:

[https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my\\_homepage.jsp](https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my_homepage.jsp)

#### **Health & Wellbeing Learning Grids**

Pupils should continue to work through Health & Wellbeing tasks from previous weeks.

Senior pupils are strongly encouraged to look at the Developing the Young Workforce Skills Academy opportunities. Although aimed at school leavers, the online sessions will be of interest to pupils from all year groups. See the article below and [www.dyw.scot/skills-academy](http://www.dyw.scot/skills-academy) for further information.

All activities can also be found online within Year Group Teams.

#### **P7/S1 Transition Update**

We very much enjoyed welcoming our new S1 pupils to QAHS for their transition visits and this week's transition update can be accessed via the usual link:

<https://sway.office.com/6IMlY6JyzQ3dw4aW?ref=Link>

Pupils are encouraged to engage with the various transition activities. Activities from Science and PE will be added soon.

Parents and Carers of new S1 pupils are encouraged to complete a quick survey to gather feedback on our P7/S1 transition programme. The survey can be accessed here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKb0GH6KvaKZDscubdEoz3bxUNTFLWTZTNIc2V0dGSIBIQ0FZOVZaV1JZUy4u>

### **University and College Student Funding**

Updated information on funding and finance for college and university study in 2020/21 is available from the Student Award Agency Scotland at the following link: <https://youtu.be/x24CX0QioSo>.



### **Developing the Young Workforce Skills Academy**

Are you leaving QAHS this summer? Are you looking for a job or apprenticeship? The DYW Skills Academy is for you!

Our 'Get Industry Ready' sessions give you the insight, skills and knowledge you need to build your industry readiness. You will learn at your own pace with weekly video content delivered by industry experts alongside bite sized e-learning and to top off the experience, if you are actively applying for jobs or apprenticeships there are additional experiences just for you.

Interested? Find out more and register for free here: [www.dyw.scot/skills-academy](http://www.dyw.scot/skills-academy)

Fife Council has also launched a free app for Developing the Young Workforce. This is a mobile platform designed to engage young people in the world of work. The app gives young people, parents/carers and teachers a unique insight into many different types of jobs and training available for young people. Available for iOS and Android devices.

### **Pupil Universal Fund**

We are very aware that some families in our QAHS community may be struggling financially at this time due to Covid-19. Through our Pupil Universal Fund, we currently have some capacity to support pupils and families in need by providing food cards or curricular resources. For a confidential discussion about accessing this fund and ways in which we may be able to support, please contact Katie Bennett (Guidance Principal Teacher) at [katie.bennett@fife.gov.uk](mailto:katie.bennett@fife.gov.uk).

### **Financial Help for Families**

The Covid-19 crisis has put a real strain on everyone's finances, but there's help available. If you or your child/children don't already receive a Best Start grant, Free School Meals, School Clothing grant or Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) then now is a good time to check whether you may be eligible for support.



**The Best Start Grant School Age Payment** is £250 to help to cover the cost of sending a child to school for the first time. Further info on applying can be found here: <https://www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant-best-start-foods/>.



**The School Clothing Grant** in Fife is £100 per child per year to help pay for school dress and Free School Meals can really ease the pressure of food costs. Apply for both here: [Fife Free School Meals and Clothing Grant](#)

**An Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)** can provide £30 per week to help your 16-19 year old child continue with their learning. For more information and to apply please follow this link: [Education Maintenance Allowance](#)

If you need support in applying for any of these grants, please contact your child's Guidance Principal Teacher and they can advise you or put you in touch with someone who can help.



## **SDS**

In the coming session 2020/21 Judith Robb and Karen Warwick from Skills Development Scotland will be supporting pupils with their career planning. They will be helping pupils prepare for their next steps whether that be employment, training, apprenticeships, college or university. As there will be no face to face meetings, they will be offering a virtual service. Therefore, if you receive a call from either of them, please know it is in partnership with Queen Anne High School, helping pupils to plan their future.

Both Careers Advisers are happy to help and are happy for you to contact them on:

Judith.robb@sds.co.uk

Karen.warwick@sds.co.uk

In the meantime, we would encourage you to access the My World of Work website on <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/> where you will find additional advice and support regarding careers.

## **Free e-books for all QAHS pupils!**

A reminder that all QAHS pupils (including our new S1 pupils) have free access to thousands of e-books from SORA. Please see more information in the QAHS Library Team. Mrs Smales, our librarian, can assist with usernames and passwords.



## **Dunfermline Youth Work Update**

My name is Susan Shankland and I'm a Community Education Worker based at the Tryst Centre in Abbeyview, Dunfermline.

Dunfermline Youth Work supports young people in and around Dunfermline. Our Facebook and Instagram sites are updated regularly and provide lots of information and advice for young people and their families, including activities on offer during the summer holidays.

## **Pupil Leadership Team Dropbox**

In an effort to support our new S4 pupils as they enter the Senior Phase of their education, our new School Captains and Vice Captains have created a service to allow pupils to directly get in touch with the Pupil Leadership Team with any queries or concerns they may have. To access this service, S4 pupils should use the e-mail address which has been posted into their Year Group Team on Microsoft Teams. When a query is received, the relevant member of the Pupil Leadership Team will respond.

Wishing you and your family a lovely weekend. Please take care and continue to follow official advice.

Regards.

Ruth McFarlane  
Rector