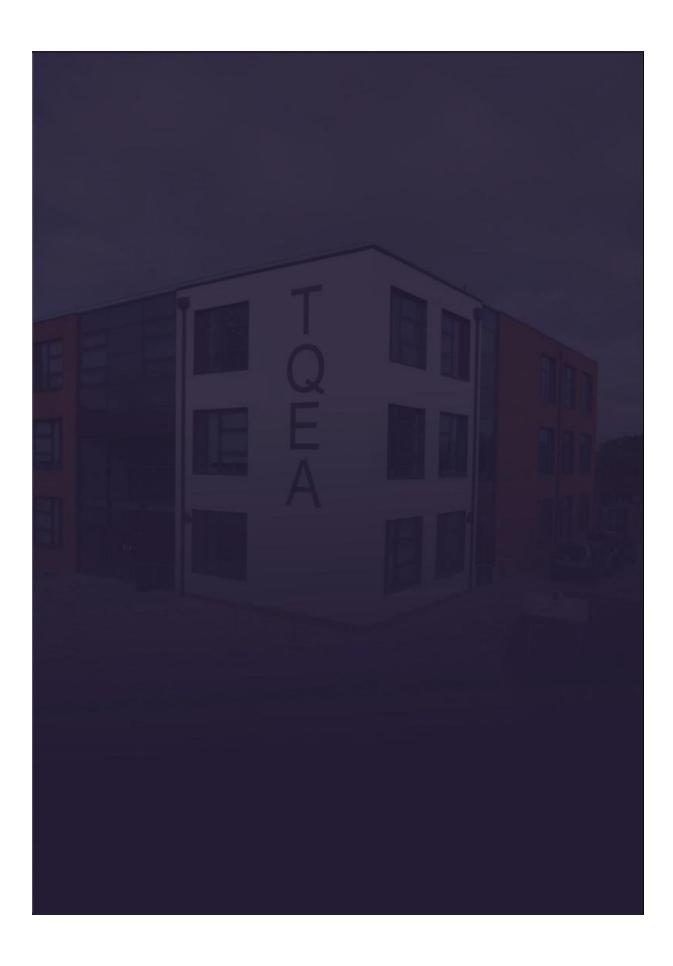


The Queen Elizabeth

Academy



TQEA Newsletter: Friday 12th September

Issue 2



The Queen Elizabeth Academy

"We Can and We Will"



Head of Academy Welcome



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearly at the end of our first full week back in the Academy and what a week it has been!

As I have been walking around the Academy, it has been wonderful to see the quality of teaching being delivered by our teachers to your children and their hard work and engagement in their lessons. This week I have seen Year 7's experiencing their first Science practical lesson, learning how to use Bunsen burners safely, and Year 9's carrying out an experiment around height measurements. This was followed by seeing Year 8's in their Drama lessons rehearsing a script from Willy Russell's 'Our Day Out' and fine tuning their Liverpudlian accents and Year 10's discussing the advantages and disadvantages of playing professional Sports.

Year 11 have had an exceptionally strong start to the academic year; highly focused and motivated in their lessons and outstanding attendance at their end of day Super Charge sessions. These end of the day compulsory intervention sessions are vital and, as last year's GCSE results have proven, are a game changer to success. Alongside this they are being

supported by their form tutors – Mr Brown, Mrs Trewin, Miss Wilson and Mr Webb – developing study skills and independent learning as well as partaking in Small Group Study. Of course, it is key, to access all of this, that students are in the Academy attending every day.

This week we have also launched our Key Stage 3 Curriculum Partnership communication. We recognise the importance of working in partnership with families to support every child's learning and development. One way in which to enhance this is to improve our communication on what your child is studying during the academic year and how you can support them to be successful. Mr Martin has sent out video links to Year 7 and Year 8 parents and carers with this important information and this will be followed next week with a link for Year 9 parents and carers. On Thursday 6th November we will run a face-to-face Curriculum Parent Partnership Evening to support you in learning more about the curriculum and how it is delivered in school with practical ways in which you can help. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Have a great weekend!

Alison Morris





Attendance Information





Attendance remains a very high priority for us as a community. If students are not in the academy, we are not able to help to support them or teach them the knowledge and skills they need to succeed. It is vital that all children are in the academy every day.

Week Commencing: Monday 8th September Weeks Attendance: 93.3%

Top 10 Tutors of the week:

7LXC

10RZC

9JXP

9MRB

8RJG

7DTI

8SK
7СМО
9NMP

11KJW

Warwickshire Attendance Information

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
 - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

To comply with the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 and Data Protection expectations, it is vitally important that The Queen Elizabeth Academy keeps accurate and up to date information relating to every pupil on roll.

The information we are required to record includes:

- Pupil's full legal name (and if appropriate, their preferred name).
- The name, address and contact details of every person known to the school/academy who is a parent* to the pupil with whom the pupil normally resides (this is the address that has been used to register with their GP).
- The name, address and contact details of any additional parent*.
- Any other emergency contact details. In order to gather this information, every year we send out data collection forms. Parents are asked to complete the form with as much information as possible and then return to the school, signed and dated. We would ask that even where there are no amendments to the data collection sheet, parents return the form, signed and dated. The Queen Elizabeth Academy requests that if you change your contact number, move home or there are any other circumstances which may impact your child, the school is notified as a priority. *The Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as a). any natural parent, whether married or not, b). any parent who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act (1989) for a child or young person c). any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

Open Evening



PE Clubs Poster



Taylor Swift Tribute

On Friday 5th September we had the incredible Taylor Swift tribute act "My Version" come and perform an incredible concert! Lots of fun was had by all with glow sticks, sweets, friendship bracelets, singing and dancing! My Version will be returning to the school to offer more amazing performance to our students. This was a great opportunity for our students to see live professional musicians performing, as well as seeing our schools very own peripatetic teacher in action.















Elle McNicoll book signing

Upcoming events at Waterstones Nuneaton

To stay in the loop about our events, follow us on our social media





ELLE MCNICOLL

BOOK SIGNING

SUNDAY **28 SEPTEMBER 12PM**

Join us for a signing with award winning author Elle McNicoll to celebrate the publication of her brand new novel,

Role Model, a heartfelt and timely novel for readers 8+. Please register your interest in advance to avoid disappointment.



Visit waterstones.com/events for details

Elle McNicoll **About the author**



novelist and screenwriter. Her debut, A Kind of Spark, won the Blue Peter Book Award and the Overall Waterstones Children's Book Prize, as well as Blackwell's Book of 2020. She is a five time Carnegie nominated author, and was shortlisted for the Books Are My Bag Awards 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2024, the Branford Boase Award 2020 and The Little Rebels Award 2020 and 2021. She was also honoured in the US with the Schneider Award, 2022.

A Kind of Spark, has also been adapted for television, which debuted on UK and US screens on the 2nd of April, 2023. It is Emmy nominated and won Best Children's Programme at the Broadcast Awards and the Royal Television Society Awards in London, 2024 and is now streaming in many territories around the globe. A second season is currently airing on CBBC and also won a National Television Award and received an Emmy nomination. Her debut was named as one of the greatest children's books of all time, coming in at number 75, and she is twice nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.

Bookseller's Best Books of 2021. Her first fantasy middle grade, Like a Charm, was nominated for Best Children's Book for Older Readers in the first ever Week Junior Book Awards, and was highly praised in the New York Times. Her first Young Adult novel, Some Like It Cold, is an award nominated YA debut and her second, Wish You Were Her, was published in June, 2025. She is an advocate for better representation of ne<mark>urodiversity</mark> in publishing, as an autistic and dyspraxic novelist, and currently lives in North London.

















A KIND OF SPARK (2020) tells the story of 11-year-old Addie as she campaigns for a memorial in memory of the witch trials that took place in her Scottish hometown. Addie knows there's more to the story of these 'witches', just like there is more to hers. Can Addie challenge how the people in her town see her, and her autism, and make her voice heard? A story about friendship, courage and self-belief, perfect for fans of The Goldfish Boy.



KEEDIE (2024) As Keedie and her twin Nina approach their fourteenth birthday, they seem to only be growing further apart. Keedie instead feels drawn to, and fiercely protective of, their quiet younger sister Addie – who on the surface is the opposite of loud and fiery Keedie, but in fact they have more in common than anyone knows. Set in Juniper five years before A Kind of Spark.

LIKE A CHARM (2020) Edinburgh is a city filled with magical creatures. No one can see them... except Ramya Knox. As she is pulled into her family's world of secrets and spells, Ramya sets out to discover the truth about the Hidden Folk with only three words of warning from her grandfather: Beware the Sirens. Plunged into an adventure that will change everything, Ramya is about to learn that there is more to her powers than she ever imagined.



LIKE A CURSE (2023) Stuck in Loch Ness while Edinburgh falls under the control of a terrifyingly powerful Siren, Ramya Knox is frustrated. She's supposed to be learning magic, but that isn't going as smoothly as she'd hoped. As she pushes to rescue her Hidden Folk friends in the city, long-buried secrets come to light and legends come to life. Ramya knows she's different; but now she must learn the true meaning of her powers... before all she loves is lost.





Upcoming Events

17th September - Year 9 Curriculum Parent Partnership information

22nd September - Year 7 PSHE Day 25th September - Open Evening and Junior Leadership Team elections

6th - 8th October - Y7 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes

8th October - Y11 GCSE Success Evening

9th October - Y7 Tutor Evening

16th October - Y9 photos