

Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School



Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School
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Chairman of Governors: Mrs Helen Crooks
www.queenelizabeth2.w-sussex.sch.uk

Headteacher

Candidate Information

Welcome to Queen Elizabeth II School



Dear Prospective Candidate

As a result of the retirement of our current Headteacher, Governors seek to appoint a truly special individual as Headteacher of this wonderful school. Thank you for your interest.

The school has been rated Outstanding following 3 full Ofsted inspections since May 2010. We are a happy community where students are listened to and well cared for, with a high-quality of teaching evident across the school. The successful applicant will be able to evidence the ability both to sustain that record and be ambitious for improvement in a challenging sector so that our students and staff can achieve their maximum potential.

This pack is intended to give a brief introduction to the post and the school. The [website](#) provides further insight into life at Queen Elizabeth II.

If you are interested in applying for this post, I strongly encourage you to visit and experience the school for yourself. Visits are by prior arrangement only, to book a school visit please contact the school office on 01403 266215.

I look forward to receiving your completed application and remind you that the closing date for applications is 4th March 2019. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in selection activities on 27th March 2019 and also on 28th March 2019 for those candidates who proceed to the second day.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Crooks', written over a horizontal line.

Helen Crooks
Chair of Governors

Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we cooperate with other agencies and initiatives at local and national level. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any successful job applicant will be required to undertake a Disclosure & Barring service check (formerly known as Criminal Records Bureau check) at an enhanced level, in line with all schools across West Sussex. Disclosures include details of cautions, reprimands or final warning as well as convictions, spent or unspent.

About our School

The Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School is based in the West Sussex market town of Horsham. We are located within walking distance of Horsham railway station which has direct links to London Victoria and London Bridge. Horsham is an easy commute from all parts of East or West Sussex and from Surrey.

Local amenities in Horsham are excellent and our students enjoy access to the town's sports, leisure and performing arts facilities as part of our extended curriculum.

The school caters for up to one hundred pupils, with ages ranging from two to nineteen years. We deliver the curriculum across four phases of education including pre-school; primary; secondary and 6th form.



Many of our students come to us at 2 years old and remain until leaving at age 19. All the pupils have severe or profound and multiple learning difficulties. Some pupils also experience more complex needs, such as severe epilepsy or autism and some have life limiting or lifelong chronic health conditions.

The pupils at school participate in many activities. Each pupil has an individual learning plan based on our school curriculum and the National Curriculum. This will include many specialised activities, such as hydrotherapy, rebound therapy, riding for the disabled, aromatherapy and massage.

The school has specialist status for performing arts and is committed to learning through this approach. The school has recently achieved the highly acclaimed gold Artsmark, for the third time. The school also prides itself on its links with the wider community through visits to other schools, link courses at colleges and work experience.

Dual Placements with mainstream schools are encouraged if appropriate for individual pupils. The school has a successful partnership with Collyer's Sixth Form that offers a two year specialist course for students aged between nineteen and twenty-five.

Our Vision

Queen Elizabeth II School is a theatre where individuals are inspired and nurtured by the crew who provide the script and the freedom to ad lib. Each individual can then perform to the best of their ability leaving with the confidence to go out on the stage of life, their performance resonating with you forever.

Mission Statement

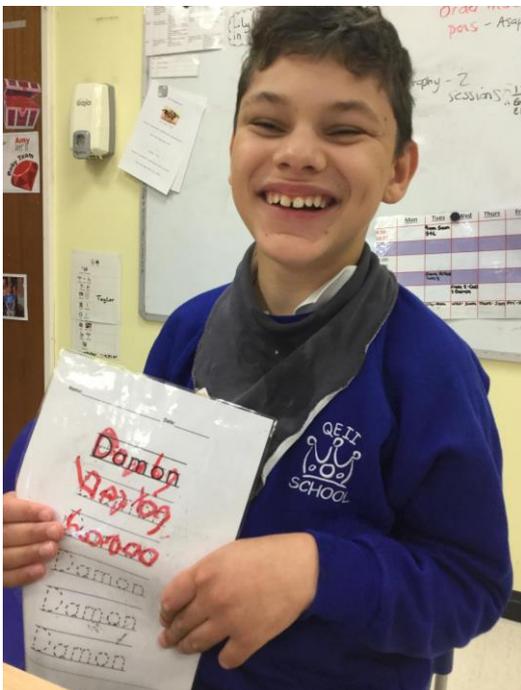
L – Lean

E – Enjoy

A – Achieve

R – Respect

N – No matter who we are



Our Aims

To enable the individual to achieve his/her maximum potential by providing an appropriate teaching and learning environment and a curriculum which is innovative, creative, flexible, stimulating and relevant to the individual

To provide equal opportunities for all, respect the individual's right to make choices

To ensure the individual's educational placement is appropriate and responds to his / her needs

To develop independence, confidence and self-esteem

To promote and share a pride in achievement

To work in partnership to support our families

To prepare the student for a smooth transition to adult life

To be a respected part of our local community

The Curriculum

The School follows a developmental curriculum which encompasses the National Curriculum. This is accessed through the setting of yearly annual education plans which are evaluated through the annual review process. Termly targets (ILP's) are set by a multi-professional team including the teacher, physiotherapist, speech and language therapist and occupational therapist and indicate priorities for each pupil. Parents are invited to include their ideas in this process and are informed of how pupils have progressed towards their goals at the end of each term.

Creative Arts

We have always seen the potential for teaching our students through performing arts. All students at QEII have extremely complex learning needs and our creative curriculum enables them to reach their full potential particularly in terms of self-esteem confidence and independence.



Our reputation for performing began to grow in 2007 when we entered the National Rock Challenge dance event and performed alongside our mainstream peers. Our 'Monster Rock' was spotted and we were asked to perform it on many occasions, since then our performing arts has gone from strength to strength. We celebrated gaining our Gold Artsmark in 2009 and again in 2012 and 2017.



The school is divided into early years, primary, senior and sixth form departments for curriculum planning purposes organised into ten class groups, each with a teacher and two or more special support assistants. The early years and primary departments adopt a topic approach which is on a three-yearly cycle, ensuring that the EYFS and National Curriculum programmes of study are experienced by the pupils. The senior department works on a five year framework, covering mini topics in history, science, R.E, geography, art and technology over a five-year programme. From the age of fourteen students have access to ASDAN accredited vocational courses. Department staff plan together to ensure appropriate progression and continuity.

In 2009 we embarked on the Shakespeare for Schools Project and a group of senior students performed Twelfth Night at Leatherhead Theatre, the Capitol Theatre Horsham and the Performing Arts Hub at Central Sussex College. Once again we were spotted and chosen to be one of three schools nationally to perform at the Lyric Theatre in the West End. We now run three Shakespeare groups annually, the older students perform at the Capitol Theatre in the Autumn and the younger students perform in two sensory Shakespeare groups in our studio.



The Creative Arts Programme at QEII has been greatly enhanced by the new studio which was officially opened in July 2010. The specialist art room provides a dedicated facility for pupils to explore all aspects of the Art Curriculum and the learning outcomes have been outstanding. We were privileged to be chosen as the West Sussex School to take part in a pre-Olympic project.

In September 2010 we were awarded Specialist Status in the Performing Arts in recognition of the high standard we have reached. This involves an increased commitment to share our skills with other schools and the wider community.

Staff

There is a large staff group consisting of the headteacher, two deputy headteachers, four members of office staff, seventeen teachers (full and part-time) of which four are senior teachers. There are also sixty-two members of support staff (full and part-time) including seven higher level teaching assistants as well as the premises officer and cleaning team. The school kitchen has three cooks and is managed by the local authority.

SEN Policy

As a purpose built special school which caters for pupils with severe or profound and multiple learning difficulties, we recognise the uniqueness of every pupil.

We also acknowledge that each pupil has special educational needs. These will be met through the delivery of a developmental curriculum which embraces the National Curriculum. Through an individual learning plan and close liaison with parents, carers, professionals, schools, colleges and work places we intend to ensure the maximum development of all our pupils.

The creative arts are divided into four areas; Art, Dance, Drama (including sensory drama) and Music. Pupils can access the creative arts throughout their time in school and opportunities to celebrate their achievements are embraced, for example, dance festivals, art exhibitions, Shakespeare festivals, choir, and music festivals, school shows, carnival and film making competitions.

Oaks Sixth Form students can specialise in the performing arts with study modules such as technical theatre and choreography. Work experience is also offered in the studio setting and supporting younger pupils with dance events.

Accommodation

The school is a purpose-built single storey building erected in the Silver Jubilee Year and opened officially by H.M. Queen Elizabeth II in March 1978. It comprises classrooms, hall, library area, hydrotherapy/swimming pool, therapy room, soft surface playground, trim trail, environmental garden, sensory garden and a small multi-sensory / soft play room. There is a large purpose built studio for performing arts and indoor sports.

A fully equipped sixth form has been built for the further education group.



Partnerships with Parents and Carers

Parent Support Group

This group meets every third Thursday in the month at QEII for lunch and a presentation from an invited professional. This group is now available more widely to parents in the local community who have children with special needs. See our weekly newsletter or Facebook page for dates and topics.



Therapeutic and Medical Services

We are supported by a speech and language therapist, a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist and a clinical psychologist.

Pupils are seen regularly by the school doctor or community paediatrician. We also have a school nurse based on site.

Behaviour Support

A clinical psychologist is available to support individual families and has monthly appointments and works with our in house behaviour experts. Our trained Team Teach Instructors who are also available to support parents and run parent workshops

Parent Partnership

This group consists of the headteacher, parent reps from each class and reps from respite care services. The group meets twice a term to ensure that the partnership between home and school is effective.

Governing Body

There is an active Governing Body consisting of ten members and operates without a committee structure. The full Governing Body meets twice each term.



Friends of QEII – PTFA

This group meets regularly to provide support and arrange social and fund raising events.



Other Information

Candidates are asked to make themselves familiar with the following reports and policies to have a full flavour of our wonderful school

School Website: <http://www.queenelizabeth2.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/>

Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy:

<http://www.queenelizabeth2.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/policies/281324>

Privacy Statement: https://queenelizabetheschools.co.uk/website/job_vacancies/281231

Ofsted: <https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/2737511>