



# Queen Elizabeth's High School

An 11-18 Grammar School. Original Charter 1589.



## **Vacancy Information Booklet**

### ***Head of English***

***Full time, permanent - MPS/UPS***

***TLR 1b £11,425***

***To commence 1 September 2024***

*Queen Elizabeth's High School is entirely committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all of its students. Each student's welfare is of paramount importance. Successful candidates are therefore required to reveal information concerning all convictions and offers of employment will be subject to an enhanced background check by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)*

**Closing Date: 08.00am on Monday 18 March 2024**

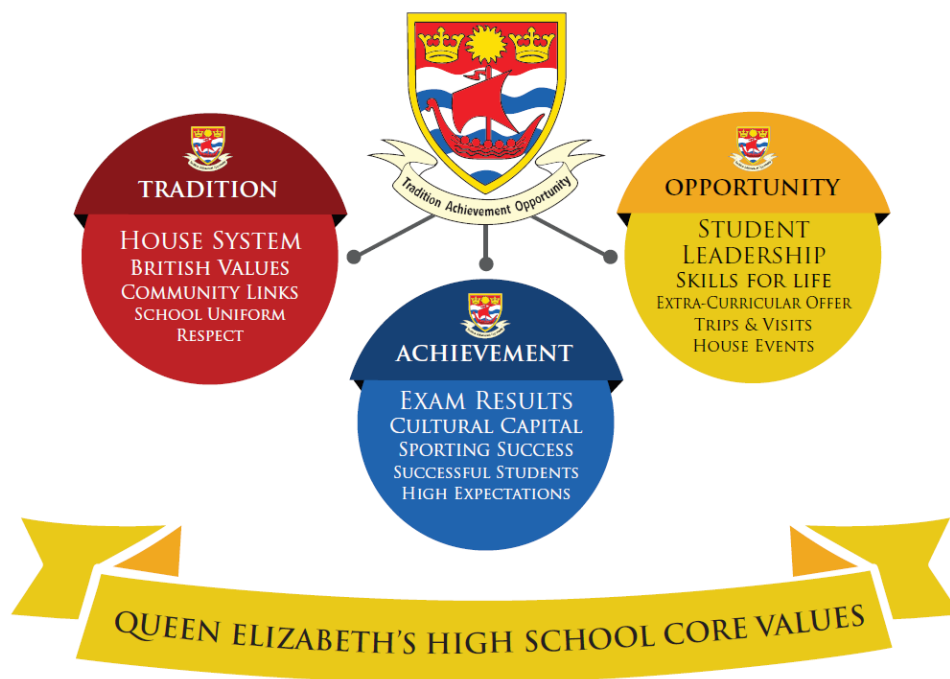
**Interviews to be held on Friday 22 March 2024**

## School Vision

At Queen Elizabeth's High School, we aim to offer an outstanding education and to be the destination of choice for academic excellence. This is achieved by providing an environment in which students are academically challenged, well cared for, and are afforded access to a broad range of fulfilling and enriching co-curricular activities.

## School Motto and Values

Tradition Achievement Opportunity



At Queen Elizabeth's High School we aim for high standards in all we do.

- We strive to fulfil the potential of each student.
- We aim to achieve this through a carefully planned, broad education in which enthusiastic teachers use a variety of teaching styles in activities inside and outside the classroom.
- We aim to maintain a friendly and caring atmosphere in which students and staff share a mutual respect.
- When they leave Queen Elizabeth's High School we want students to be well-balanced adults, inspired to continue their learning and able to contribute positively to society.
- Queen Elizabeth's High School is committed to the highest possible standards of child protection.

The selection criteria for student admission to QEHS in Years 7-11 benefits children of staff who have worked at our school for more than two years, or who are recruited to fill certain key posts. See the full Admissions Policy on our school website ([www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk)).

## What Ofsted said.....

In December 2023, the school was inspected by Ofsted. QEHS has been graded as 'Good' in all five of the inspection categories: The Quality of Education, Behaviour & Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership & Management, and Sixth Form Provision. Therefore, the overall effectiveness of the school is a strong 'Good'.

The inspection team rightly noted that QEHS is a school where expectations around what students can achieve are high, and that students thrive on this challenge and are successful in their academic studies. Just as importantly, it is recorded that students '*...get on well together and enjoy each other's company*' and that interactions with their teachers are

similarly positive and productive. Above all, students attending QEHS were seen to be benefitting from an ambitious curriculum and ‘...a rich educational experience’ that serves to develop their confidence, character and to broaden horizons.

Following on from two consecutive years of outstanding examination results and a top ten regional placing in *The Sunday Times Parent Power Survey*, the findings of this Ofsted inspection serve to demonstrate just how amazing the students of QEHS truly are and the extent to which they thrive and blossom by committing wholeheartedly to the utterly unique Queenies offer.

## The QEHS Learner Standards

We are committed to working together as a school to ensure that students enjoy and achieve in all of their endeavours. Learning is at the heart of our thinking as a community and we encourage students to grasp opportunities in order to broaden their knowledge, skills and understanding.

To support this we have developed the QEHS **Learner Standards**. These set out to identify three key areas of focus for learning and are used as a framework for all that we do.

The **Learner Standards** are as follows:

1. **Behaviour for Learning**
2. **Leadership for Learning**
3. **Learning to Learn**





## The Vacancy

We are seeking a Head of English who is dedicated, enthusiastic and able to lead the English team here at Queen Elizabeth's High School from 1 September 2024. This is an exciting opportunity for someone to head an already successful department and to continue to raise and develop the profile of English as a taught subject, literacy, and the love of literature across the school.

The role would ideally suit an individual who, along with the appropriate qualifications, is extremely motivated and enthusiastic with highly developed leadership and management skills. The ability to teach up to and including A Level English Language and Literature is essential.

The majority of the teaching occurs in a specialised set of modern classrooms in the English block, all of which are equipped with interactive whiteboards. The department is well resourced with textbooks, software, and other equipment.

## The English Department

English is a high performing subject area and very popular with students. As Head of Department, you will be supported by a Second in Department, and you will lead a dedicated team of seven staff in total.

The English Department is forward-thinking, with the unique ability to offer specialist teaching to our students. The department is friendly and supportive. We have staff with a wealth of experience, as well as staff towards the start of their career. We also have a dedicated English Progress Coach as a key member of our team.

There are seven English classrooms with the addition of a comprehensively stocked school library. Computer rooms and a Drama Studio are also available as bookable areas. We are very well resourced for classroom lessons and have a good range of digital resources to support our students with their learning.

The department is well led and managed. As such we are able to plan strategically to best support the students in our care, alongside each other. Teachers new to the English team are supported by a mentor and the Head of Department would be supported by their link member of the School Leadership Team. A member of the Governing Body is similarly linked to the English Department. Reviews and observations consistently show teaching and learning to be good, or better. Department planning and policy is open to review and feedback from all stakeholders, and also takes into consideration work life balance.

## The English Curriculum

It is the intention that our curriculum challenges and enriches our young people, exposing them, as far as possible, to a wealth of human knowledge, experience and understanding. We therefore plan our curriculum carefully to ensure a broad education for all students throughout the whole of their career at school.

Through delivering our English curriculum our intent is to inspire students to appreciate and create literature and to understand and use language to thrive in the world beyond school. Our curriculum is rich, varied and challenging. We study a broad variety of fiction and non-fiction texts across all key stages, including Shakespeare in every Key Stage. In terms of breadth and challenge, we deliver over and above the National Curriculum. Enjoying a love of learning and a passion for reading in particular are key focuses and we have a close relationship with our librarians. We have superb borrowing rates which reflect this. In and beyond the classroom, we expect that students should develop not just knowledge, but also skills, aesthetic appreciation and an understanding of concepts and the community they live in at local, national, and global levels, as well as appropriate attitudes and values.

### Years 7 - 9

Students follow Schemes of Learning that have been developed and resourced in house to meet the aims and objectives of the National KS3 Programme of Study as well as to prepare them for GCSE. Students are taught in mixed ability groups. All Year 7 and 8 classes have a fortnightly timetabled Library lesson and use the Accelerated Reader programme. Year 9 also have a fortnightly Library lesson and use the Bedrock vocabulary programme.

### Years 10-11

Students follow the AQA Language and Literature GCSE courses. Schemes of Learning have been developed in-house to meet the individual needs of our learners. We have two 'top sets' per year group and six parallel mixed ability classes. All classes are taught by specialist teachers.

### Sixth Form

We offer the AQA Language and Literature combined course and AQA Literature Specification A at A Level. English is a popular A Level choice and we have thriving groups in both subject areas. Each A Level class is shared between two specialist teachers.

### Extra-curricular

The English Department enjoys providing a wide range of extra-curricular activities to enrich our curriculum and take our love of learning beyond the classroom. A sample of what we offer is below:

Competitions	Visits/Other Activities
English Speaking Union	Annual visit to the First World War Battlefields
Rotary Youth Speaks – regional winners and national finalists	Year 8 Guardian Newspaper Visits
Regular entries to external poetry competitions e.g. Foyle Young Poets, Carol Ann Duffy Remembrance Competition	Year 8 Newspaper Day Event
Young Writers' Competition	Regular theatre visits for GCSE and A Level especially
In-house creative writing competitions	Carnegie Award Reading Group
'Send My Friend to School'- regional ambassadors	Year 7 Annual Readerthon Sponsored Read
World Book Day Competitions	Writers' visits and workshops

## Results

	2022		2023	
GCSE				
English Language	9-4 98%	9-7 50%	9-4 99%	9-7 46%
English Literature	9-4 98%	9-7 48%	9-4 98%	9-7 38%
A Level				
English Lang/Lit	A*-E 100%	A*- C 100%	A*- E 100%	A*-C 87%
English Literature	A*-E 100%	A*- C 100%	A*E 100%	A*-C 85%

## HOW TO APPLY

We believe that QEHS is a great place to work. Please read the information in this booklet, the relevant job description and have a look at our website. Should you wish to apply, application details are available on our school website ([www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk)) or by emailing a request to [recruitment@qehs.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@qehs.lincs.sch.uk).

**A letter of application is required to accompany the formal application form.** This letter must be limited to two sides of A4 paper and is an opportunity for you to explain how you believe your own experience equips you for the post and for you to outline how you would approach this role at QEHS.

You are also welcome to telephone 01427 612354 ext. 267/264 if you have any questions about the post and / or if you would like to arrange a visit to the school.

Completed applications should be submitted by email to [recruitment@qehs.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@qehs.lincs.sch.uk) by **08.00am on Monday 18 March 2024**. We will contact your referees for a reference before the interviews and, for shortlisted candidates, the references will be taken into account in deliberations at the conclusion of the final panel interviews. **Interviews will be held on Friday 22 March 2024.**

Candidates are required to bring to interview evidence of all relevant qualifications listed on their application as well as certificates for A Level, degree, teaching and other qualifications acquired. Please also bring proof of identity, including at least one item of *photographic* evidence (current passport or new style UK driving license with associated counterpart licence). A list will be provided detailing which documents can support your application. Please be aware that at least one document should include your National Insurance number. Candidates will also be provided with a self-disclosure form. This will allow them the opportunity to disclose and fully explain any information with regard to disciplinary sanctions, anything they are concerned might appear on their DBS, etc.

Queen Elizabeth's High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Queen Elizabeth's High School is committed to equal opportunities and staff development. Our policy is to ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment because of race, colour or nationality, gender, marital status, religion, disablement, or criminal record (QEHS policy 17a). Members of staff are expected to set a good example in their appearance and smart office dress is a good guide for all staff.

**QEHS and Lincolnshire Children Services are committed to  
the highest standards of child protection and staff development.**



## QUEEN ELIZABETH'S HIGH SCHOOL

Morton Terrace · Gainsborough · Lincs DN21 2ST · Tel (01427) 612354

Website: [www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk) Email: [office@qehs.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:office@qehs.lincs.sch.uk)

HEADTEACHER: Mr R M Eastham, BSc (Hons), MEd, NPQH

