



ISSUE 55 AUTUMN TERM 1 2025

QE IN THE NEWS



Dear Families

Welcome to our first newsletter of this academic year.

The Autumn Term is like the engine house of the year when routines are set and we focus on getting to know our new students and classes. It's been a packed half term as you will see from the fabulous reports on our activities in this newsletter. Two weeks ago, we had our student voice week led by our Sixth Form Leadership Team and I was so impressed with the thoughtful feedback from students of all ages across the school. We have already implemented a number of the suggestions made and will continue to listen to ideas throughout the year.

You will be aware of some of the challenges we face with our buildings and while this gives us a characterful environment, we are very mindful of the repairs and developments that are currently needed. Being part of the family of Ted Wragg Trust schools has meant that we have great support to achieve the improvements we need, so that our students can continue to flourish in our school.

Our classrooms are busy and productive as students begin to master their new curriculum and academic challenges. In addition, we have been delighted to welcome so many parents into school for our curriculum information evenings, which have included tutoring in Years 7, 8 and 12, revision support for Year 11 and work experience for Year 10. Moving through November, we have mock exams for Year 11 and Year 13 in preparation for GCSEs and A Levels which will approach all too quickly.

Learning in classrooms is only part of what we do. It is fantastic to see the high level of student participation in the many and varied creative, academic, sporting and community-based visits and opportunities that we offer.

So please go ahead and read this newsletter. Everything you see reflects our school values of ambition, community and kindness. I hope that you feel as proud of your children as I do. We have much to look forward to for the rest of this academic year.

Very best wishes for the holiday,

Paula Smith

Headteacher

Jay's Aim



Early in October, all students in Year 8 were given the opportunity to participate in CPR and Defibrillator training provided by Jay's AIM. These practical sessions gave our students the chance to learn the skills needed to help save someone's life should they suffer cardiac arrest. Students were told that the chance of surviving a cardiac arrest rises from 6% to 74% if a Defibrillator and CPR is used within the first 3-5 minutes.

This amazing charity offers free training across the South-West. It aims to increasing public awareness and do all it can to promote wider knowledge and understanding of little-known cardiac conditions and their symptoms. Find out more about the story behind Jay's Aim here www.jaysaim.co.uk





Blood Brothers



Our Year 11 GCSE Drama students recently saw Blood Brothers at Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple. A chance meeting with lead actor, Dominic Gore, at the stage door led to this picture!

Poppies

Our Year 10 Design and Technology students have been learning about manufacturing in quantity and set up their own production line to create acrylic poppies ahead of Remembrance Day. The resulting poppies are now available from Reception at Western Road for a minimum donation of £1, all proceeds will go to The Royal British Legion.



#HelloYellow



It was lovely to see so many staff and students taking part in #HelloYellow on World Mental Health Day.

Here are some of our Year 7 students rocking their yellow accessories.

If you haven't yet, but would like to make a donation to Young Minds, you can still do so via our JustGiving page:

<https://fundraise.youngminds.org.uk/fundraisers/elisabethmchugh>

Thank you for your support for this amazing charity!



Trigonometry Skills



Our students took their trigonometry skills outside, using clinometers to measure angles and then calculating building heights using their new maths know-how. From classroom theory to real-world maths - they smashed it!



Big Interview



At the end of September, as part of our careers and raising standards work, Year 11 students took part in a Big Interview Day. A huge thank you goes to all of the local employers who provided interviewers and gave our students such a valuable experience.

Expedition

Congratulations to Year 10 Group A Bronze The Duke of Edinburgh's Award students on successfully completing their practice expedition recently!

Students should feel incredibly proud of their achievements - especially after a full day at school beforehand. Their determination and enthusiasm were evident throughout the journey.

To Mrs Morgan-Nolan's delight, everyone was up bright and early and ready to leave camp by 8am. It was heartwarming to see so many smiling faces during the expedition.

A huge thank you to the volunteers and staff who supported and helped make this experience possible. Your time and dedication are appreciated.





Marvellous Map Work!



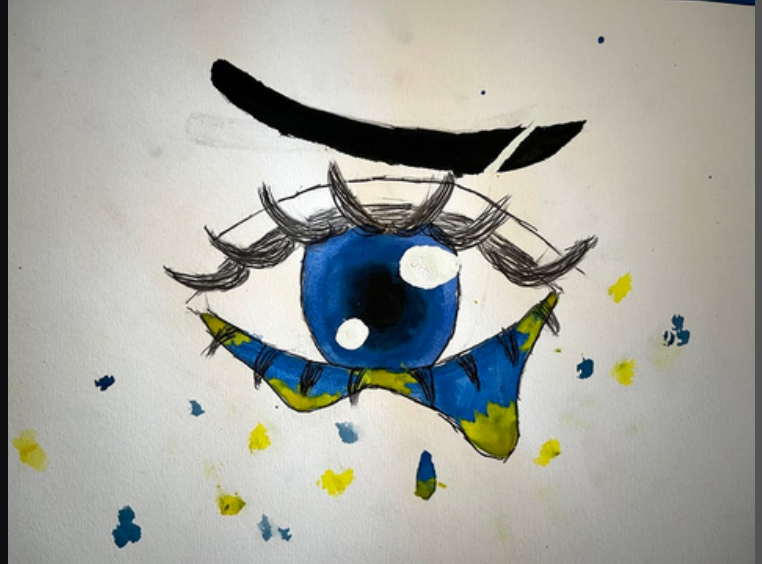
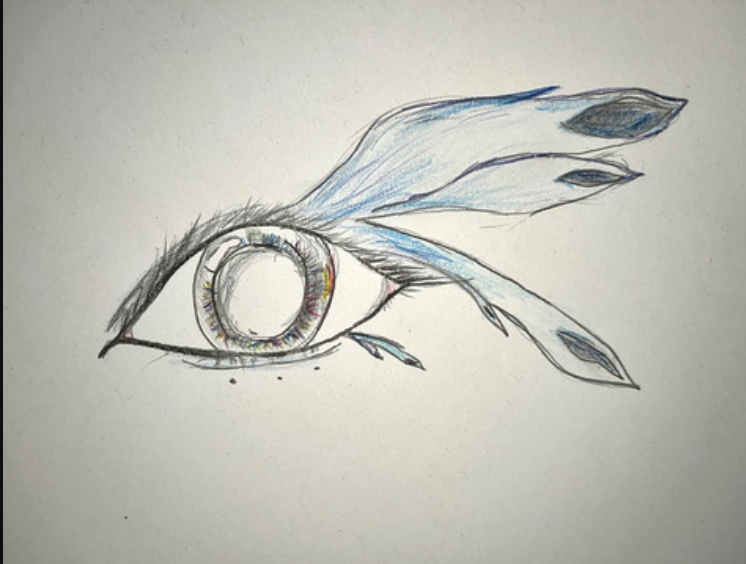
Year 7 students have been learning a range of map skills in Geography lessons this half term and have been applying these skills through using OS Maps of the Crediton area. They have impressed us with their ability to combine all the skills they have been taught!

We are encouraging them to keep practising by using the Ordnance Survey Mapzone Website

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/>



Barnfield Art Club



We are delighted to see so many budding artists from Year 7 and 8 coming to Art Club each week on Thursdays after school. The students have been painting Surreal eyes, drawing their own ideas with endless amounts of imagination and designing Christmas cards! A few of the students even bring along their own colourful watercolour sets and impressive personal sketchbooks!

Art club is every Thursday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm in L11 at Barnfield with Miss Hall. We welcome more students to join after half term.



Fine Art and Photography Support Sessions

GCSE and A Level at Western Road

It is a pleasure to have a large number of our Art and Photography students attending these sessions each week. Students have extra teacher support, use of specialist equipment and they can also work independently on their themes to develop and complete coursework. There is a real buzz of creativity on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school in the Art block at Western Road. Students are carrying out photoshoots together, mastering painting techniques, typing up annotations, refining drawing and presenting their work in sketchbooks. It is lovely to see familiar faces committing to these sessions each week and all Art/Photography students are welcome to attend. Miss Hall and Mrs Lloyd run the sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 5pm. Please come along!





Year 11 Boys' Rugby



Earlier this month, our Year 11 Boys' Rugby team took to the field against a strong and physical Kingsley school from Bideford. After conceding a try early on, heads could have gone down but with tenacious defending for the entire game from the whole squad the boys kept at it and worked their way back into the game. Ben charged through and Toby slotted the points, along with a penalty, to take the lead shortly after. Kingsley came back into the game scoring with five minutes to spare but in the final play of the game, last-minute replacement Fletcher managed to evade their winger and score in the corner! Great win for the boys and outstanding performance from all! Thanks also to ex student Jake Green for reffing!



U16 Netball



The U16s played fantastically at the Exeter Area National Schools Netball Tournament at Exeter School earlier this month and held their own against some tough opposition. Well done girls!

Devon RFU Development



A huge well done to Ellie and Ellie who were recently selected for the Devon County player development squad for Under 16 Girls Rugby! Well done ladies, top work!



Don't forget, QE's PE and Outdoor Education Department have a dedicated Instagram account to celebrate all things sporting. Check it out and give them a follow:
[@peatqe](https://www.instagram.com/peatqe)

Sixth Form Work Experience



At the end of the summer term, some of our Year 12 students completed their work experience with Crediton Town Council. During the placement, they researched whether Crediton could have a Youth Council, developed a clear plan and vision, and presented their recommendations to the Town Council's Youth Committee.



The meeting was a huge success — all of their proposals were accepted! Since then, plans have been put in place for press releases, posters, and opportunities to engage with young people across the community.

Work experience in Year 12 is a fantastic opportunity for students to:

- Build confidence and communication skills

- Gain insight into potential career paths

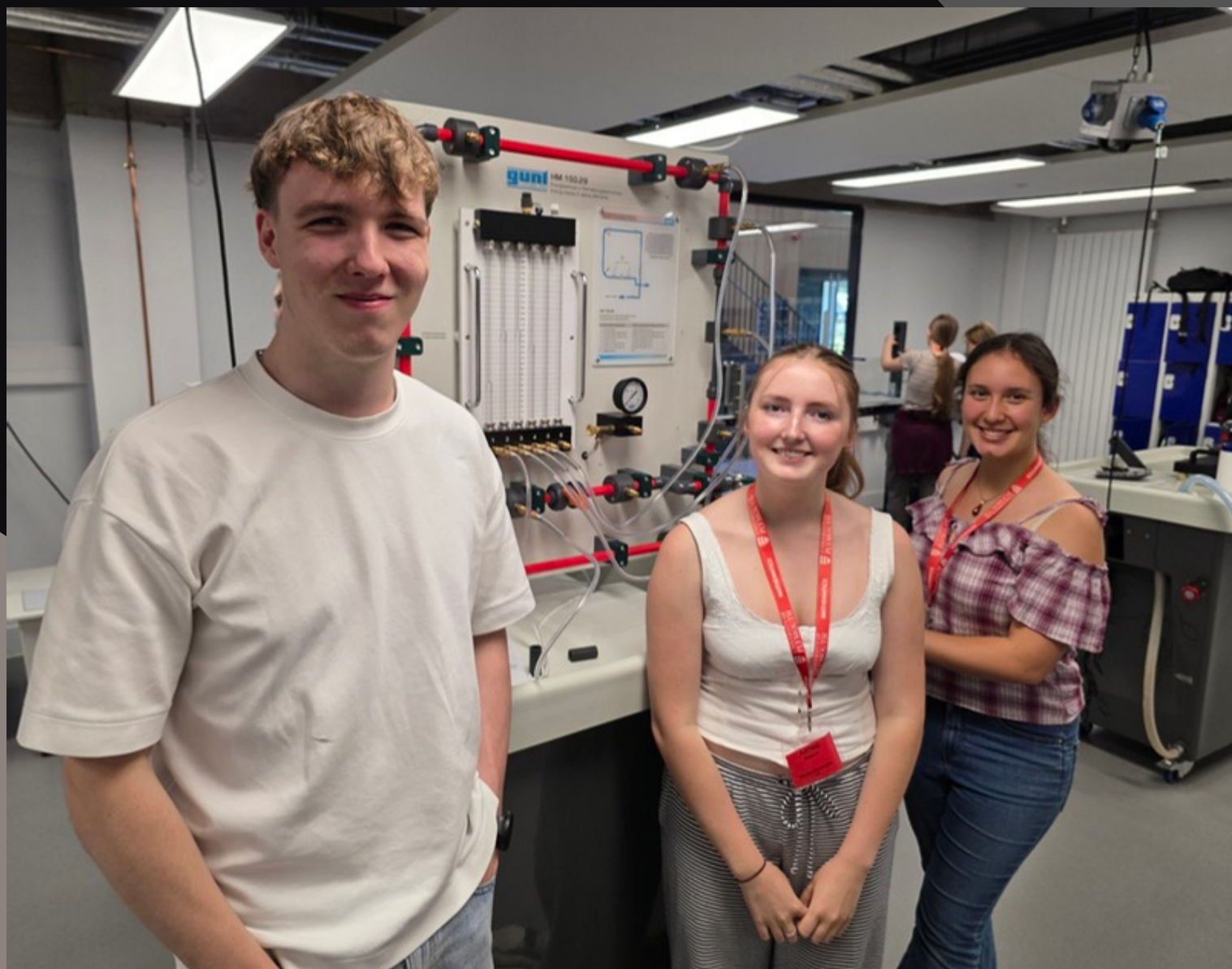
- Make real contributions to organisations

- Develop independence and resilience ahead of Year 13 and beyond

We're incredibly proud of the hard work, determination, and professionalism our students show during their placements.



Maths Workshops



Sixth Form students took part in an exciting and successful day at the University of Plymouth, exploring degree and career paths in mathematics.

The group excelled in a variety of hands-on workshops, with Willem receiving the top score in the maths challenge and the QE whole group winning the cryptography workshop. Students also took part in a fascinating session about fluid dynamics, a branch of study concerned with the motion of liquids and gases.



Leadership Team



Our Sixth Formers are busy throughout the year supporting a range of school events! From talking with younger students to sharing their experiences of A Levels, they've been fantastic role models and ambassadors for our Sixth Form.

They've highlighted the many benefits of Sixth Form life — from specialist subject teaching to the independence and opportunities that prepare them for university and beyond.

The students pictured are part of our Student Leadership Team, volunteering their time at the Year 11 Parents' Information Evening.

A big thank you to our Sixth Form students for inspiring the next generation!



Ted Wragg Trust Awards



Huge congratulations to all the staff and students nominated for this year's Ted Wragg Trust Awards, some of whom are pictured here, a fantastic night was had by all.

We're so proud of Mrs Marcus-Embleton, winner of the Co-Professional of the Year Award, well-deserved recognition for all she does for our school and community.





Stronger Starts.



Support Our School in Tesco's Stronger Starts!

If you shop at Tesco, you may have seen that we're featured in the Stronger Starts community initiative. We'd love your support, please pop your blue token in our slot!

Your vote will help us develop our outdoor learning area, adding fruit bushes and vegetables so our students can learn and grow in nature. This project will also enable us to expand our sustainability work and strengthen connections with the wider community.

Every token makes a difference — thank you for helping us make this vision a reality.





Communications

As you will be aware, we use a secure online system called Bromcom to send out general information, newsletters and trip messages etc. to parents and carers via email. Please ensure you have added the communications email address - mcas@qe.tedwraggtrust.co.uk - to your safe sender list, this should help ensure you receive communications from us promptly and that your provider doesn't filter them to spam.

My Child At School (MCAS)

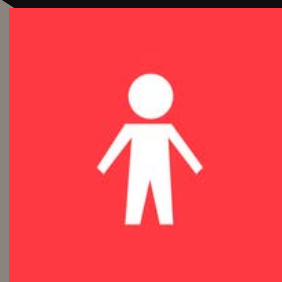
We also use a secure online system from Bromcom called My Child At School (MCAS) to keep you up to date. With MCAS parents and carers can:

- Check their child's attendance
- Check their timetable
- Keep track of positives/negatives awarded
- View homework
- View reports
- Send and receive messages.

If you have a smartphone, both you and the school can save money when you download the 'MCAS' app from your app store (Android and iPhone).

MCAS accounts are generated for parents and carers when their child joins the school, if you didn't activate it at the time, please visit

<https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin> or download the app and use the 'Reset Password' link to set up your account using the email address we have on record for you.





BITS AND PIECES



If you have any community events or news you'd like to share, please contact Lisa - lisa.gillard@qe.devon.sch.uk

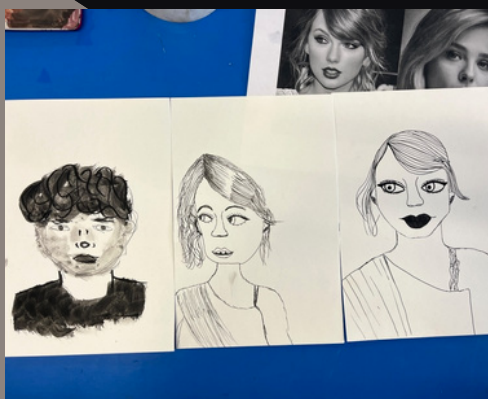
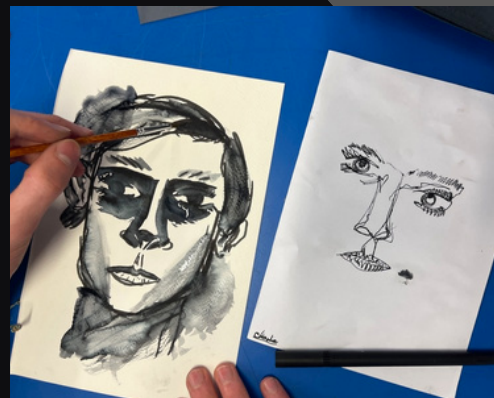
Kick Start Art

Year 7 and 8 Art Club

Linda from Kick Start Art has held two amazing workshops at the Barnfield Art Club. Linda introduced the students to experimental approaches using continuous line drawing techniques combined with mixed media.

Fabulous expressive and delicate portraits were produced using pen, paint and tissue paper. It was brilliant to see the students freeing up their drawing styles, taking artistic risks and leaving the session full of pride and enthused. Thank you Linda! The KSA Portrait competition is currently running and is open to all year groups. Please take a look at the link to find out more and how your child can get involved.

<https://youtu.be/j7EAhqziyls?si=BROaVjd3VDNuYubJ>





2025 TED WRAGG

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

CHOCOLATE & HOBBYCRAFT VOUCHERS TO BE WON

Winning designs made into the
official Trust Christmas Card

DIGITAL DESIGNS WILL BE TURNED INTO A
VIRTUAL SINGING XMAS CARD

Entries welcome from all ages across our
Primary and Secondary schools, contact
your Head of Art or teacher today!

- Submission Deadline: Friday, 17th November
- Judging Date: W/C 24th November
- Winners Announced: Week of 1st December

Artwork should be no smaller than A5.
There is no maximum size, however
artwork needs to be photographed.

Artwork will be judge by a panel of artists

Ted
Wragg TRUST



School aged vaccinations

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ **FLU** - Reception - Year 11
- ✓ **MMR** - Catch-up
- ✓ **HPV** - Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ **Meningitis ACWY** - Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP)** - Year 9 - Year 11

FLU

MMR

HPV

**MENINGITIS
ACWY**

**DIPHTHERIA
TETANUS
POLIO (DTP)**

Did you miss us?

We also have community clinics across Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

SCAN
HERE



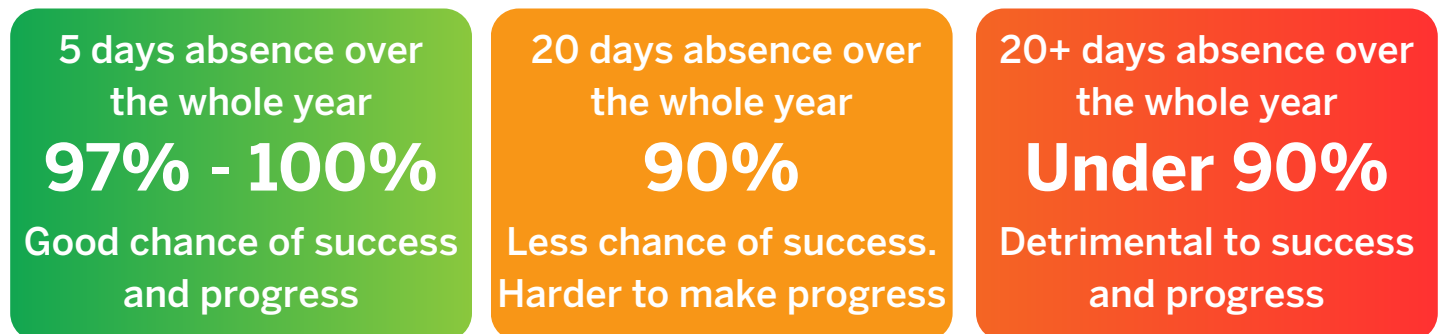
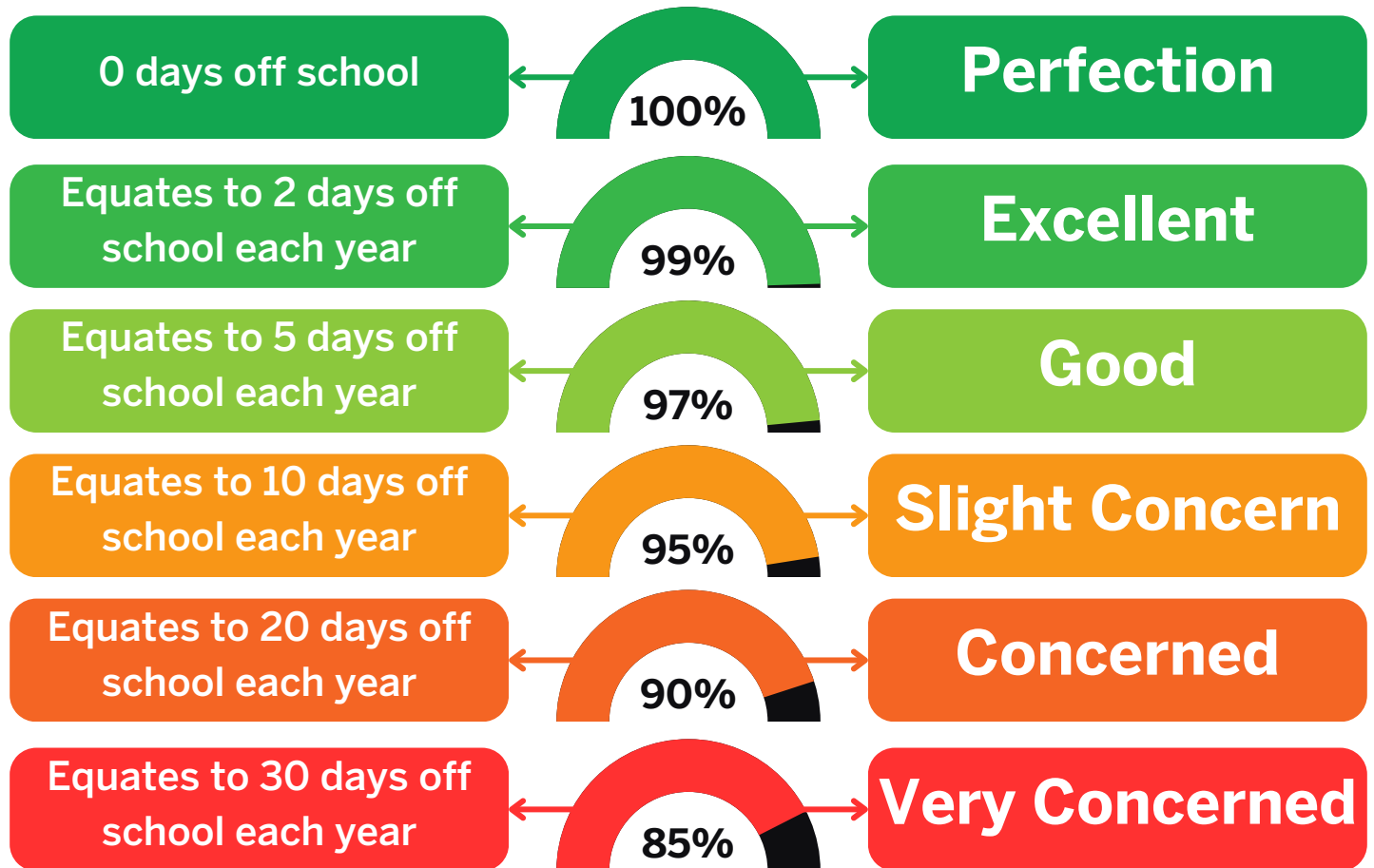
For further information scan the QR code or please speak with a member of the team

Call us on

01392 342678

Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net

Every School Day Counts



Every Minute Counts

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 Minutes late each day	3 Days lost!
10 Minutes late each day	6.5 Days lost!
15 Minutes late each day	10 Days lost!
20 Minutes late each day	13 Days lost!
30 Minutes late each day	19 Days lost!

Be at the
classroom on
time and ready
to learn!





BITS AND PIECES

Changed your Details?

Have you moved or changed your email or phone number? Don't forget to update your details with us! Please also let us know if any of the other emergency contacts you gave us, when your child joined the school, have changed. You can use MCAS (My Child At School) or email new details to:

reception@qe.devon.sch.uk

Send
us
Your
News!

NEWS



Email Lisa

lisa.gillard@qe.devon.sch.uk

GRUB'S UP

Delicious, freshly prepared hot food is available, daily from our catering outlets, OR choose from healthy sandwiches, wraps, hot panini and spicy street food. Students can check out our menus on site.

For your Diary

Oct 24th: Last Day of Term
Nov 5th: Staff Return
Nov 10th: Students Return
Nov 10th-21st: Years 11 and 13 Mock Exams
Dec 1st-5th: Years 7-9 Assessment Week
Dec 8th: Non-pupil Day
Dec 10th: Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening
Dec 12th: Years 11 and 13 Envelope Results Day
Dec 17th & 18th: Years 7-10 Rewards Trips,
Year 11 NEA Drop Down Days
Dec 18th: Reports out for all years
Dec 19th: Early Close

Our latest job
vacancies are always
advertised on our
website.

