



WHY QEH?

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You run a remarkable school with an ethic that is truly unique. It shines through in each and every boy. There's something in the way the teachers know every boy's talent and in the way the boys support each other (while also embracing real competition!) that's just remarkable.

Esther, parent



Headmaster Rupert Heathcote

WE'RE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SCHOOLS

Any parent choosing a school for their child wants to know the answer to the question 'Why here?' So in the following pages we'll explore why you might choose QEH. We'll give you a real insight into the warmth and friendliness of our close-knit community, the liveliness and breadth of our curriculum, the rich co-curricular activities and the strong values we instil in our students.

This is a school where individuals matter – where there's space for children to be themselves. Whether your child is joining us from our Junior School or elsewhere, we will help him settle in quickly and develop all his talents, sending him out into the world as an open-minded and self-assured young adult you can be proud of.



WHY JUST BOYS IN
THE EARLY YEARS?
**WE BELIEVE THAT
THEY LEARN BEST
THIS WAY**



My boys have loved QEH! they felt at home so quickly and really enjoyed being able to see themselves with other like-minded lads. The teachers really 'got' them and although they're very different characters, QEH brought out the best in both of them.

Katie, parent



Top left: Discovering how compound interest works

Middle left: Sharing a joke outside the 'big blue doors'

Top right: Rugby is one of our main team sports

Middle right: Table tennis is a popular lunchtime club

Bottom: Year 7 enjoy a team-building river walk



We understand boys and teach in ways that suit them. We know their foibles, their tendency to leave things until the last moment, their curiosity, their need to be active in their learning. And we understand how to coax them out of the teenage blues.

Without girls in the class in their early teens, boys are freer to acknowledge their feelings and develop self-confidence without the complication of trying to impress the opposite sex. This means they're just as happy to read a poem in assembly or sing in the choir as they are to play in the rugby team. By the time they reach our co-ed Sixth Form, they've grown and matured and are ready for combined teaching with their new female classmates.





WHAT DO WE MEAN BY EDUCATION? IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT PAPER QUALIFICATIONS



QEH has fulfilled its role in turning out a well-rounded young man able to take his place in the world...not one simply packed full of facts. He has the ability to think for himself and to turn those thoughts into effective actions.

Anton, parent





Top left: Mentoring by alumni
Top right: House competition trophies
Middle left: Solving a maths problem together
Middle right: Celebrating success at Prize Giving
Bottom: A-level chemistry students



We have high academic expectations of our students but we aim to produce young adults who are well-educated not just well-qualified.

What do we mean by this? Put simply, we want to create young adults who are curious, emotionally intelligent and able to think critically for themselves as well as pass exams. Small classes, a positive work ethic and teachers with a real passion for their subject create a learning environment where students are stretched, not stressed. Excellent results are a given. But we would genuinely feel we had failed if we sent a student out into the world equipped only with outstanding paper qualifications.



**CAN BOYS BE
THEMSELVES?
WE ENCOURAGE
SELF EXPRESSION**



We are so glad Bertie chose QEH. The experience he has had cannot be faulted. He has learnt humbleness but is not afraid to stand up and express himself. QEH allows boys to shape themselves and does not provide holes into which they must endeavour to fit.

Claire, parent





Top left: Half our students have individual music lessons

Middle left: 'Treasure Island' in our 220-seat theatre

Middle right: Ready for the relay on Sports Day

Bottom: Enjoying ceramics in our new £3.5m Science and Ceramics Centre



Funny... serious... defiant... shy... this is a school where boys can be true to themselves in all their exuberance and quirky individuality. Through paint, clay, music, words and theatre, students explore and express feelings they can't necessarily articulate in other ways. In doing so, they embark on a lifelong journey appreciating beauty and excellence. They also grow in stature and confidence, becoming young men who are happy in their own skin.





WHY IS
RESPECTING
OTHERS SO
IMPORTANT?
WE DEVELOP
A GLOBAL
PERSPECTIVE





Top left: The happiest staff room in Bristol

Middle left: Talking about books in a library lesson

Top right: Debating the issues of the day

Middle right: Letting off steam in the yard

Bottom: Our co-ed Sixth Form



We know that one day your child will leave QEH. We want him to thrive in the wider world as a tolerant, socially at ease young adult who respects different views and can work well with others.



At QEH, we bring difference and a global perspective into students' lives both inside and outside the classroom – opening their eyes to the needs of others, difficult ethical issues and the challenges faced by communities in a fast-changing global world. Above all, we empower them, helping them feel they can play a part, however small, in creating a better world for everyone.



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QEH has been the best decision we have made for our son. You've brought out something special in him that is hard to put into words.

Rachel, parent



HOW DO WE BUILD CHARACTER? IT STARTS WITH SELF RESPECT



Top left: Mentoring from a Sixth Former

Middle left: Over 100 students sing in our choir

Top right: Composition in a music technology lesson

Middle right: The traditional QEH blue coats and yellow socks

Bottom: Celebrating success at a weekly assembly





The experience our boys are having at QEH is giving them the foundations required to lead happy and fulfilling lives.

Varinder and Meena, parents



Building character may sound slightly old-fashioned but we believe it's as important to the modern world as it's ever been. Essentially we're talking about acquiring strong moral values, having a clear sense of right from wrong, and being able to lead and take responsibility.



We encourage self-respect and respect for others – through our assemblies, our House system, our enrichment and PSHE programmes and the many small interactions that happen every day between staff and students. Visitors often comment on how self-assured and well-mannered our pupils are – we can't take all the credit, but we think we play an important part.





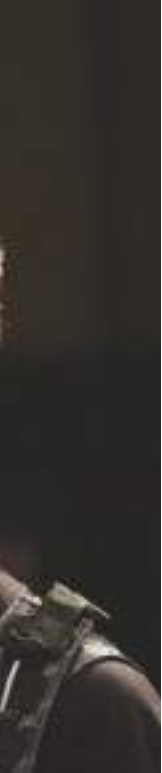
WHAT DO
WE MEAN BY
'DEVELOPING
CONFIDENCE'?
IT'S MORE THAN
SKIN-DEEP



His experience has been extremely positive. He's grown in confidence, done well academically and made life-long friends – all thanks to QEH.

Mark and Carol-Ann, parents





Left: A telling moment in the 'Scottish Play'
 Middle left: Another run on the board!
 Middle right: Measuring up in the DT workshop
 Bottom: A Sixth Form artist



We're not talking about swagger here or talking in a loud voice. When we say 'confidence', we mean that quiet, inner confidence that comes when you start to understand yourself and recognise your needs and feelings.

We develop and support this in many ways – through sport, art, our exciting enrichment programme for pupils in Years 7 to 10 and our unobtrusive but strong pastoral care. We know all our students as individuals. Every pupil has a personal tutor, a Head of Year and a Sixth Form mentor who has been trained to listen. If something goes wrong, we spot it and address it quickly, sensitively and effectively.





HOW DO WE SERVE
THE COMMUNITY?
**WE HELP STUDENTS
SEE BEYOND
THEMSELVES**



Top: QEHS musicians perform in more than 30 concerts a year
Middle left: North Korean author and defector Sungju Lee talks to Sixth Formers
Middle right: Selling cake to raise money for their chosen charity
Bottom: Geographers in New Zealand





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Ollie became a whole different person when he came to QEH. He's really stepped up and enjoys his House and peer supporter roles. I'm very proud of the young man that QEH is helping him become.

Phil, parent and former pupil



Fund-raising for charities... volunteering opportunities for Sixth Formers... providing assisted places for many of our students – we bring alive our school motto 'Whilst we have time, let us do good' in many different ways.

Our aim is to help students understand that life is not just about them, to give them the skills to live a responsible and fulfilling life and to send them out into the world as caring and considerate members of a global community.



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Of course we're delighted that he has done so well academically. But really we're just happy that he's been in an environment in which he's been allowed to become his true self. It will set him up for life!

Jo, parent

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WHERE NEXT?
WELL...THAT'S
ANOTHER STORY



Top: Sixth Formers enjoy purpose-built facilities in the heart of Clifton

Above: Catching up in the common room

In our co-educational Sixth Form, students have wider opportunities to take on responsibilities and strengthen the leadership skills they need to thrive in a life beyond QEH. Academically, there's a wide selection of A-level subjects to choose from – and our dedicated Sixth Form Centre offers a grown-up approach to study, with both silent and communal working areas and hot and cold food on offer throughout the day. Weekly enrichment sessions explore topical issues and also develop students' practical skills such as basic cookery and car maintenance. Students leave to join top universities and go on to work as writers, doctors, composers, engineers and radio presenters as well as taking up jobs in industry and the City. We've done our part. Now it's up to them to put their QEH education into practice... although, of course, we do continue the relationship through our alumni society, mentoring and networking opportunities.



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