

## Educational Services

### Head Teacher: Katie Schlesiger

Queen Margaret Academy  
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Our Ref: KS/MD Your Ref:  
Date: 29 August 2025



Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Queen Margaret Academy and to extend thanks to all in the QMA community for the warm welcome. We have had a busy start to the year with young people settling in quickly. Thank you to all staff for supporting young people. You can keep up to date with all our news at our website or follow us on Facebook or Instagram.

### Recognition

Thank you to all staff who engaged positively with the training to help us secure our **Keeping the Promise Award**.

We have also received a **Bronze Award** in the **Outstanding Team** category of South Ayrshire's **The Outstanding People Awards** for our work with unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. We were completely unaware of our nomination, so this was a real honour and a lovely surprise as we begin the year ahead.

These awards are testament to the hard work and commitment of everyone in our school community. Thank you to all for 'living our values everyday', and for helping to make QMA such a special community where all young people can feel loved, included and respected.

### S1

We welcomed over 140 S1 pupils to the school and they have settled in well. Our S6 pupils have been an excellent support to our new young people. S1 pupils will soon meet their buddy who will support them this year. Events with buddies will include S1/S6 welcome Mass and a buddy breakfast. Places in S1 and S2 are now limited with both year groups at capacity.

### Contacting the School

If you require to speak to the school you can call 01292 612020 or email [QMA.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:QMA.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk) In the first instance you should speak to your child's guidance teacher.

Assisi: Mrs Paterson  
Galilee: Mr Paterson  
Jericho: Miss Phillips  
Lourdes: Miss Thomson

DHTs are responsible for the following year groups:

S1/S4 Miss McGhie  
S2/S5 Mrs Fergusson  
S3/S6 Mr Mallon  
SLC Mrs Semple

If you are unsure who your child guidance teacher is the office will be able to direct your call.

### Clubs and Activities

There are a number of clubs and activities open to young people. You can find information about our extracurricular activities attached to this letter. Please encourage young people to go along; it is an excellent way to learn something new and meet new people.

### **Attendance**

We continue to focus on attendance which is also a priority for the local authority. You will see that students from Queen Margaret Academy took a lead role in South Ayrshire Councils Every Learner Every Day Campaign.

### **Annual Consent 2025/2026**

If you have not yet returned or completed online an annual consent form please ensure that this is completed as a matter of urgency. We require this updated if young people are to attend trips or offsite visits. To complete form online please link to <https://parentsportal.scot/home/> alternatively, you can complete the paper copy attached and return it to the school office.  
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### **Parent Council**

Our Parent Council will be meeting for the AGM and first meeting of the session on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 6pm. If you are not already a member of the forum, and you would like to attend, can you please email your details to [QMA.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:QMA.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk) and you will be sent a copy of the Agenda. Meetings are held in the school, and everyone is welcome to come along.

### **Uniform**

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the standard of uniform is high. If you require any support with uniform please contact your child's guidance teacher.

### **School Fund**

We are committed to supporting all our young people and our school fund is used to support pupils and families across the school. This year our school fund has supported us to provide a school tie to all new S1 pupils, to help families with items of uniform, subsidised school trips to keep the cost as low as possible, provide transport to trips and events and to support families across our school community experiencing difficult times. As a school we promote the value of Community in the coming session parents and carers who can support the school fund will be able to do so throughout the year by donating through Parentpay <https://www.parentpay.com/> to the QMA Donations Fund. We know that not all will be in a position to donate but ask that if you are you consider supporting the school to continue provide for our community.

The school will be closed for local holidays on Friday 19th September and Monday 22nd September and we will welcome pupils back on Tuesday 23rd September at 8.45am. We are looking forward to our annual Prizegiving which will take place on 24th September. Letters will be sent to all prize-winners and more information will be sent out in due course.

It has been a very positive start to the session, and we are looking forward to a busy and productive year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Katie Schlesiger  
Head Teacher