QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY BIRMINGHAM

NEWS FROM THE FUNDRAISING OFFICE

Spring 2026

QAC LAUNCHES BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES APPEAL

QAC has undergone significant growth over recent years and has extended its work to support young adults with learning difficulties and disabilities as well as those with visual impairments through the areas of Education (Queen Alexandra College), Residential Services, Community Services and Enterprises.

QAC's history is intertwined with the work of the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind (BRIB). However, for the last almost 30 years, QAC has been a separate charity independent of BRIB, but celebrates and continues the work started by BRIB whilst continuing to benefit from its ongoing support.

It is this support that has enabled QAC to look at improving and expanding its educational offer. BRIB are gifting the land that we currently rent from them. This generous act provides QAC with the opportunity to look at redeveloping areas of the site to improve its facilities and develop the site to enable us to increase our student intake.

In the last ten years, student intake has more than doubled from just under 200 to 468. With numbers set to climb further we want to continue to be the college of choice for those who need us.

Therefore, we are proud to launch the Building Brighter Futures Appeal. This will not only bring about a brand new purpose built medical and therapies centre on our college site but will enable us to then look at repurposing other areas to support the increase in student numbers.

How will this benefit students?

- A brand-new health & therapies suite will ensure students have access to nursing and physio input as well as a variety of different therapies in a brand-new purpose-built facility.
- The building will be at the centre of the campus so easily accessible to students from across site.
- Health and therapy staff in the one building will encourage more and make easier multidisciplinary working supporting students' health & therapy pathways..
- Providing students with a less clinical, more comfortable setting to receive their health care and therapies in.
- Moving health and therapies from various areas of the campus releases areas that can be re-purposed to increase learning spaces.

FIND OUT MORE BY VISITING QAC.AC.UK

DONATE DIRECT TO THE APPEAL HERE

QUEEN ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY SERVICES

QUEEN ALEXANDRA RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

QUEEN ALEXANDRA ENTERPRISES BIRMINGHAM

QUEEN ALEXANDRA COLLEGE BIRMINGHAM

Registered charity number 1065794

NEWSLETTER

GREAT GRANTS!

(FROM CHARITABLE TRUSTS/ORGANISATIONS)

QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY BIRMINGHAM

NEW COVERED WALKWAY UNVEILED

We are excited to share that a new covered walkway has been installed at the entrance of our Court Oak Road College site.

The college entrance is a hive of activity both before and after college. We have over 450 students who use the entrance to enter and exit the college.

The canopy brings many benefits not just for keeping students dry in wet weather but assists those with visual impairments who find the entrance more difficult to navigate particularly in bright sunshine.

Many socialise and interact with their peers before the college day starts and at the end of the day while they are waiting to be collected. Due to public transport or transportation restrictions some will have to arrive early and often wait in this area.

The entrance is disability friendly under foot/wheelchair, but the walkway cover will enhance our students' experience and encourage those who don't want to make the journey in wet (or bright) weather to retain their routine and independence when entering and departing from the college site.

Thanks again to the **Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind** for their support and an incredible **£30,000** donation to support this transformation

LOCAL TRUST CONTINUES TO SUPPORT QAC:

Thanks to **The Alison Hillman Charitable Trust** for their continued support of QAC including their most recent £5,000 donation to support our fundraising. Their generosity will help further support the lives of young people with disabilities.

GRANT FUNDED ARCHERY PROJECT WINS AWARD

On Thursday 12th March QAC were awarded the Mandi Hine Inclusivity Award at the West Midlands Chartered Institute of Fundraising conference.

The award recognises outstanding projects which showcase a commitment to promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).

The panel were amazed by our archery club and archery activities that cover residential clients, community services clients, students and staff wellbeing session.

Thanks to support from a Sport England Award and GB Archery working in conjunction with The Fletchers Trust, we secured significant amounts of brand-new archery equipment.

This was transformative because our budding archers were no longer required to use old, broken and improper kit, they now have access to specialist equipment.

With thanks to further funding from **Lillie Johnson Charitable Trust**, we were able to purchase adaptive archery equipment to enable our visually impaired clients and students to partake in our archery activities.

The specialist archery kit included: custom made bright yellow arrows, foot locators and tactile sights. The specialist archery equipment for visually impaired users allows them to take part in a greater range of activities at QAC, and further enhance their skills set, abilities and socialise through the sport.

The panel were blown away by the impact of the project from helping with student and staff wellbeing, supporting students to access new sports to improving and developing vital skills such as clients moving from learning how to shoot arrows to assisting in the running of archery sessions and teaching their peers.

This project was the vision of staff team members Ian and Jeremy who, not content with making archery accessible to the visually impaired are now working on projects for those with limited arm movement. Watch this space!

NEWSLETTER

Corporate Corner

QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY BIRMINGHAM

SPORTEA WELCOMES BUSINESSES FAR AND WIDE

"Inspiring.....Powerful.....Incredible...."

Just some of the words used by our guests to describe the college and its students at our last SporTea corporate engagement event. It's called SporTea as the morning involves businesses taking on a selection of inclusive sports led by our sports students and enjoying some tea and cakes hosted by our catering and hospitality students. What better way to network whilst experiencing what the charity is all about. Our March event included staff from Ricoh Europe, Birmingham Conference and Events Centre, Top Training and CMCS. If you belong to a business and would like to come along to find out more about who we are are and what we do please get in touch.

LEADING LAW FIRM SPONSORS CHARITY DINNER

Wilkes
Your legal partner for *life* and *business*

Wilkes Solicitors have kindly confirmed that they will sponsor the drinks reception at our upcoming Charity Dinner on 12th June at Birmingham Conference and Events Centre.

THOMAS DUDLEY GROUP DONATE TO SUPPORT QAC

QAC were delighted to receive further support from Thomas Dudley, a Dudley based manufacturing company. Following previous support from the company, we were delighted to receive a further £1,000 donation which was presented by to us by Alex a former student of QAC who had a brilliant experience at the college. We were delighted to hear about his experience of QAC and how we had supported him to enable his abilities and live a fulfilling life.

VOLUNTEERS 'MAKE A DIFFERENCE' IN THE SUN

We were recently joined by excellent volunteers from Wilkes Solicitors for a make a difference day at our Umberslade Community Services site.

The team did a brilliant job in gardening and helping to prepare the site to enable our students and clients to plant fruit, vegetables and flowers. The volunteers helped with weeding and turning over the numerous flowerbeds. The weather was glorious and some of the clients got involved with the gardening too.

If you would like to work with us and arrange your very own make a difference day get in touch at: fundraising@qac.ac.uk or call: 0121 803 5487.

NEWSLETTER

QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY BIRMINGHAM

GET INVOLVED

QAC CHARITY DINNER

Dining to make a difference

3 COURSE Dinner | Entertainment
Complimentary Cocktail on arrival

£55 PER TICKET

£500 TABLE OF 10

FRIDAY, 12 JUNE 2026
AT 6:30 PM

DRINKS RECEPTION

3 COURSE DINNER | ENTERTAINMENT

Hosted by Queen Alexandra Charity Birmingham

THE BCEC

THE BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE & EVENTS CENTRE &
HOLIDAY INN BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTRE,
HILL STREET B5 4EW

FOR MORE INFORMATION
0121 803 5487

DRINKS RECEPTION SPONSORED BY

Wilkes
Your legal partner for *life* and *business*

Birmingham Community Lottery

The lottery enables you to support QAC for £1 a week, whilst also giving you the chance of winning a variety of prizes up to £25,000! Join the Birmingham Community Lottery by scanning the QR code:

Gamble Aware

FRIENDS OF QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY

Become a friend of QAC by supporting the charity for £25 a month (equivalent to £300 annually).
When supporters contribute regularly to the charity, it helps us budget and determine how to use our resources wisely. Your support will have a direct impact on our young adults with disabilities, providing them with the essential equipment and resources they need to achieve their full potential.
Friends of QAC receive a charity pin badge, regular newsletters throughout the year, and an annual invitation to join us as our guest at an exclusive event.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY BIRMINGHAM

GET INVOLVED CONT.

Support QAC with an Afternoon Tea

JOIN IN

21st April is National Tea Day and we would love as many supporters as possible to hold an afternoon tea for their friends and family - asking them for a donation for QAC in return for attending. Let us know you're holding an event and we will send the host one of our special QAC supporter t shirts to look the part on the day. Email us at fundraising@qac.ac.uk or call 0121 8035487. We'd love to hear from you.

JOIN US

Alternatively, join us. Our catering and hospitality students will be holding their own Afternoon Tea in their training cafe. Places are £15 each. To book scan the QR code, call 0121 803 5487 or email fundraising@qac.ac.uk

QUEEN ALEXANDRA CHARITY BIRMINGHAM

Empowering Abilities, Inspiring Lives

EASY FUNDRAISING IT'S THAT EASY

EASYFUNDRAISING PARTNERS WITH OVER 8,000 BRANDS WHO WILL DONATE PART OF WHAT YOU SPEND TO A CAUSE OF YOUR CHOICE. IT WON'T COST YOU ANY EXTRA. THE COST IS COVERED BY THE BRAND.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/queen-alexandra-college-charity/

GET IN TOUCH/KEEP IN TOUCH

To find out more about any of the events or challenges please contact the team on 0121 803 5487 or fundraising@qac.ac.uk

Sign up to the QAC Charity Newsletter here https://forms.office.com/e/CWx5q1u28b

Follow us on Social Media

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/QueenAlexandraCollege/

Linked In: https://www.linkedin.com/company/queen-alexandra-college

Blue Sky: https://bsky.app/profile/qac-official.bsky.social

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/qac_official/

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/myqac