



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Before looking ahead to the new academic year, I would like to congratulate all of our Year 11 and Sixth Form students on their excellent GCSE and A Level results this summer. We are incredibly proud of what our young people have achieved and wish those moving on to university, apprenticeships, employment and other pathways every success for the future.

We are also delighted that more than 130 of our Year 11 students will be returning to Sheldon Sixth Form this September, alongside a growing number of external applicants joining us from other schools. The increasing popularity of our Sixth Form reflects the strength of our academic and vocational curriculum, the wide range of courses on offer and the supportive environment we provide for students as they prepare for their next steps.

We are equally excited to welcome all students back to Sheldon School for what promises to be another successful and exciting year; particularly Year 7s. As we begin the new academic year, I would like to share some important information and reminders.

Start of Term

- **Year 7-11 and Year 13** students return on Thursday 3rd September and should arrive by 8.25am.
- **Years 12 students return on Monday 7th September** and should arrive by **8.25am**. Students can come directly to the Sixth Form Study Room or if new to the school, they will be collected from Reception. Email espiers@sheldonschool.co.uk if you have any queries.

Students should attend in full school uniform and be ready to learn from the first day.

Year 7 will be given their phone pouches in tutor time on Thursday and will bring these home for you to see. If your child doesn't have a phone or needs it for medical interventions, please complete the form sent this morning and return it to us ASAP. A reminder that Year 7 will also be leaving 5 minutes earlier on the first two days, as they get used to unlocking their pouches at the end of the day. They will be supported in this by their Year 11 Prefect.

Uniform Expectations

We continue to have high expectations regarding school uniform and appreciate your support in ensuring students arrive dressed correctly and smartly each day.

Please ensure that:

Uniform complies with the school's published expectations [here](#)

- Footwear is appropriate and should be black leather shoes- no trainers
- Jewellery and appearance meet school requirements.

Equipment for Learning

All students should bring the following equipment every day:

- Black pen, green pen, pencil, ruler, glue stick and scientific calculator (Casio FX83GT-CW)

Having the correct equipment is an important part of being ready to learn and will continue to be checked in tutor time.

Phone-Free School and Yondr Pouches

Our phone-free school initiative continues to be a great success. Students have responded exceptionally well, and the system quickly became an established part of the school day in Term 6. It is now law that students cannot have access to mobile devices during the school day. [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/mobile-phones-in-schools)

A reminder that:

Students must bring their **Yondr pouch to school every day**.

- Phones should remain secured in the pouch throughout the school day.
- If a student forgets their pouch, they must hand their phone into Reception or Behaviour Support immediately on arrival.
- Repeatedly forgetting a pouch will result in a sanction.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a focused learning environment.

ClassCharts Launch

From this term, ClassCharts will replace ePraise and become our main platform for:

- Homework, behaviour and rewards and attendance information

Parents/ carers should receive an email containing the following information by the end of this week:

- Instructions for downloading the ClassCharts app.
- Your login details and parent access code.
- Guidance on how to use the platform.

If you have not received this information, please check your junk mail folder before contacting the school.

Students will receive their ClassCharts login details during tutor time in the first two days of term and will be shown how to use the system. We will also be providing video guidance and support materials to help families become familiar with the platform over the first few weeks. We hope the move to this system allows parents to see information more clearly.

Homework Changes

As part of the move to ClassCharts, all homework will now be set and monitored through the platform.

To allow students and families time to become familiar with the new system:

- No homework will be set during the first few weeks of term for Year 7-12, with the exception of Year 13 (*they have mock exams at the end of this month*). The homework timetable below will **commence for all students from Year 8-11 on 24 September**.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Key Stage 3	Week 1	English Geography	ICT* PE**	Mathematics Languages	Science History	PSRE* SparxReader***
	Week 2	English Art	DT Music	Mathematics Languages	Science Dance*	Drama* SparxReader***
Key Stage 4	Week 1 and 2	English Option A	PE Option B	Mathematics Option C	Science Option D	PSRE*

- * Homework will be set less frequently for this subject
- ** Homework will be set at the end of units of study for this subject
- *** SparxReader homework will be set for students in years 7 and 8 for the 2026/27 academic year.

Year 7- Phased homework

Year 7 students will continue to follow their phased introduction to homework as part of their transition programme, which is essentially no homework for all of September. Core subjects start setting homework in October and all subjects setting homework as per the timetable in Term 2. We hope this helps with the transition to secondary school and the building of good study habits.

Homework remains a key part of developing independent learning, resilience and good study habits. This year we will also be introducing a more consistent approach to supporting students who struggle to complete homework. Students who repeatedly miss homework may be required to attend detentions or Homework support sessions to help develop effective organisation and study routines with their Head of Year. Homework clubs and study clubs will be published later this term.

Attendance

Improving attendance at Sheldon School continues to be a high priority. Evidence shows that attending school regularly is essential for good learning and progress. Over the summer, we have updated our school attendance policy, and this will be sent out to parents and carers shortly. In the meantime, we would encourage students to get into good habits over the first half term. If your child is too unwell to attend school, you will need to let us know by calling 01249 766020 and selecting option 2. Alternatively, you can email absent@sheldonschool.co.uk

If you are unsure whether your child is too unwell to attend school, please refer to the guidance on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Thank you for your continued support of Sheldon School. We look forward to welcoming students back and beginning another exciting and successful year together. A list of key dates and events are below.

Yours faithfully,



Pete Lynch
Headteacher

Sheldon School Term Dates 2026 – 2027

[Click here to view this information on our website](#)

Academic Year begins	Tues 1 September 2026 (students return on 3 rd September)	SDD Days School Open for staff
October Half Term	Thurs 22 October 2026 – Fri 30 October 2026	Tues/Weds 1-2 Sept 2026
Christmas holiday	Fri 18 December 2026 (finish 12.35pm) – Mon 4 January 2027	Weds 21 Oct 2026
February Half Term	Mon 15 February 2027 – Fri 19 February 2027	Mon 4 Jan 2027
Easter holiday	Fri 26 March 2027 – Mon 12 April 2027	Thurs 25 March 2027
May Half Term	Mon 31 May 2027 – Fri 4 June 2027	Mon 12 April 2027
Summer term ends	Wednesday 21 st July 2027	SDD DAYS School Closed
		Fri 27 Nov 2026
		Thurs 22 July 2027

Year 11 Revision Evening Tues 29 Sept 2026 Sixth Form Open Evening Weds 14 Oct 2026 Awards Evening Tues 20 Oct 2026 Year 13 Revision Evening Weds 13 Jan 2027 Year 9 Options Evening Thurs 21 Jan 2027 Open Mornings 22-24 Sept 2026 28-29 June 2027 Year 6 Open Evening Thurs 24 Sept 2026 <i>(rescheduled from last Summer term)</i> Weds 30 June 2027	Year 11 & 13 Mock Weeks (classrooms) w/c 28 September 2026 (Y13 only) w/c 05 October 2026 (Y11 only) w/c 12 October 2026 (Y11 only) (Sports Hall) w/c 25 January 2027 w/c 01 February 2027 Year 9 & 10 Assessment Weeks w/c 23 November 2026 w/c 30 November 2026 w/c 07 June 2027 (Y9 only) w/c 14 June 2027 (Y9 only) Year 12 Assessment Week (classroom) w/c 14 December 2026 Year 7 & 8 Assessment Weeks w/c 08 March 2027 w/c 15 March 2027 Year 10 & 12 Mock Weeks (Sports Hall) w/c 26 April 2027 w/c 03 May 2027 Year 10 Work Experience Weeks w/c 21 June 2027 w/c 28 June 2027 Year 12 Work Experience Week w/c 05 July 2027	Parents’ Evenings Years 7&8 - 4:00pm – 6:30pm <table><tr><td>Year 7 L side</td><td>Tues 18 May 2027</td></tr><tr><td>Year 7 R side</td><td>Tues 25 May 2027</td></tr><tr><td>Year 8 L side</td><td>Thurs 06 May 2027</td></tr><tr><td>Year 8 R side</td><td>Tues 11 May 2027</td></tr></table> Years 9-13 – 3:45pm – 6:45pm <table><tr><td>Year 9</td><td>Tues 26 Jan 2027</td></tr><tr><td>Year 10</td><td>Thurs 17 Jun 2027</td></tr><tr><td>Year 11</td><td>Mon 04 Jan 2027 (3-7.30pm)</td></tr><tr><td>Year 12</td><td>Thurs 25 Feb 2027</td></tr><tr><td>Year 13</td><td>Thurs 19 Nov 2026</td></tr></table> Year 12 Parent Information Evenings (6.00pm) Thurs 17 Sept 2026 Opportunities & Expectations Thurs 17 Sept 2026 Post-18 Options Tues 8 June 2027 Year 10 Work Experience Parent Information Evening Tues 3 Nov 2026 New Year 7 Parents’ Evening Thurs 8 Jul 2027 (5.30-8pm)	Year 7 L side	Tues 18 May 2027	Year 7 R side	Tues 25 May 2027	Year 8 L side	Thurs 06 May 2027	Year 8 R side	Tues 11 May 2027	Year 9	Tues 26 Jan 2027	Year 10	Thurs 17 Jun 2027	Year 11	Mon 04 Jan 2027 (3-7.30pm)	Year 12	Thurs 25 Feb 2027	Year 13	Thurs 19 Nov 2026	Christmas Concert Thurs 03 Dec 2026 School Production Thurs 10 & Fri 11 Dec 2026 Year 11 Celebration Day Fri 28 May 2027 Year 11 Prom Weds 23 June 2027 Year 13 Leavers’ Day Fri 07 May 2027 Year 13 Ball Tues 29 June 2027 Summer Concert & Art/DT Exhibition Tues 22 Sept 2026 <i>(rescheduled from last Summer term)</i> Tues 06 July 2027 Transition Days Thurs 08 July 2027 <i>(only new Y7s in school)</i> Fri 09 July 2027 <i>(all students in school)</i>
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Reports Home Schedule

	Settling In Report	Interim Report	Interim Plus Report
Year 7	25 th November 2026		21 April 2027
Year 8		18 November 2026	19 April 2027
Year 9		8 January 2027	7 July 2027
Year 10	14 th October 2026	14 January 2027	25 May 2027
Year 11		11 November 2026	4 March 2027
Year 12	15 th October 2026	21 January 2027	26 May 2027
Year 13		21 October 2027	3 March 2027