

'Head' Line

Dear Families,

It has been an incredible term here at Shireland. Our basketball teams continue to go from strength to strength, our artists are furiously painting masterpieces and our year 11 are earnestly revising for their examinations. Shireland is a hive of activity and abuzz with energy.

Culture Day will take place on Friday 12th April. Culture Day is an exciting moment in the Shireland calendar as it is a joyful celebration of the richness of diversity of the Shireland Family.

The Academy promotes and celebrates the fundamental British values, this day will be a fantastic opportunity for staff and students to learn from each other and society more widely.

For year 11 who are preparing for their examinations we are hosting 6 days of study support during the Easter holidays with English, Maths and Science classes every morning and options in the afternoon. We really care about our Shireland students and are ambitious for their success in examinations which is why staff generously give of their time to ensure that no learning is lost over the long Easter break.

Miss Moira Green



Spring 2024

Literacy for Life

Y7 L4L Theme Update

The Spring Term has arrived, and our Year 7 students have developed their appreciation of different journeys.

From learning about map skills to Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and a variety of religious pilgrimages. They had the opportunity to discover more about Hajj in our Immersive Room (see picture right).

Our current theme is iRobot where students will start to make connections between electricity, technology and the future of our world with the current advances in AI.



VOTE DILEENA

We are extremely proud of Dileena Kaur in 8F. She is keen to represent the views and opinions of young people in Sandwell and as such is after the vote of all students aged 10+.

Dileena had successfully navigated several political rounds of a process designed to elect Sandwell's next Youth MP. She is now on the ballot of voting that closes on 8th March 2024 on a mandate regarding equality in the community.



Find out more about Dileena and her campaign:

[L4L Podcast on Spotify](#)

[Click To Vote](#)

Y7 Careers

Year 7 students have developed their knowledge and understanding of different careers.

We learnt about careers in the Army then participated in team building activities.



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

Literacy for Life



We also learnt about careers in law through a visit from BPP University Law school. We took part in the trial of Goldilocks.

Y7 Trips

Year 7 Arts App had the opportunity to participate in a Royal Shakespeare Company acting workshop and watched a CBSO concert at the Symphony Hall.



In addition, students went to see The Lion, the witch and the wardrobe at the REP theatre.



Basketball

Year 9

Our U14'S Basketball team took part in the Dynamic National competition this year. For the first time in the school's history, they made it to the Play offs. They finished joint top in their group. This is a fantastic achievement and one the school is very proud of. Unfortunately, the boys were knocked out of the competition by Thomas Telford, but the game was extremely close, and the team displayed the great character to keep fighting until the buzzer.

Year 8

Our Year 8 basketball continue to develop from strength to strength and now have a record of 23 wins out of 24 since starting at Shireland. They have topped the league again this year out of 16 teams. A fantastic achievement and good luck in the playoffs.

Year 7

The year 7 team has taken part in the Jr NBA for the first time this year. They have done extremely well and that have won 6 out of 8 games meaning they will make the play offs. A fantastic start in basketball for our Year 7's, well done!



Personal achievement

Congratulations to Tia May on being called up to the U16's National team. A remarkable achievement. We wish Tiam all the best at the championships.

Partnership with Rockets

We are delighted to announce our partnership with the City Of Birmingham Rockets Basketball Club as a Rockets Basketball Hub to offer exciting opportunities to students and the wider Smethwick community. With the Rockets' specialist expertise, we are excited to continue to grow the game of basketball in the area as one of the new 'Rockets' Basketball Hubs', which will provide a base for further activity in the area.



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

Art and Textiles

Manchester Art and Textiles Trip

January saw GCSE Art, A level Art and Textiles pupils brave the rainy weather of Manchester. They visited both the Whitworth Gallery and Manchester Art Gallery where they were able to experience a wide range of art that will help further their studies. At the Whitworth Gallery, pupils visited Material Power: Palestinian Embroidery, viewing how cultures express their identity in different ways, as well as Albrecht Durer's Material World in which they took in how Durer recorded the change that happened around him through printmaking. At Manchester Art Gallery pupils were able to view both contemporary and traditional art, finding pieces that best suit their project ideas. In the lessons following their return from the north, pupils created artwork in response to their visit, experimenting with materials and imagery.



Computer Science

Year 10 - New Beginnings

This spring term, our Year 10 students have embarked on an explorative journey through three foundational units: Systems Architecture, Data Representation, and Network Connections and Protocols. Through a series of comprehensive lessons, they've delved into the intricate architecture of the CPU, understanding the roles of memory and secondary storage.

The exploration into Network Connections and Protocols unravelled the vastness of the internet, wireless networking, and the essentials of client-server and peer-to-peer networks. This foundational knowledge has equipped our students with a robust understanding of computer internals, connectivity, and the binary logic that powers the digital world.

Years 12 and 13: Advancing and Concluding

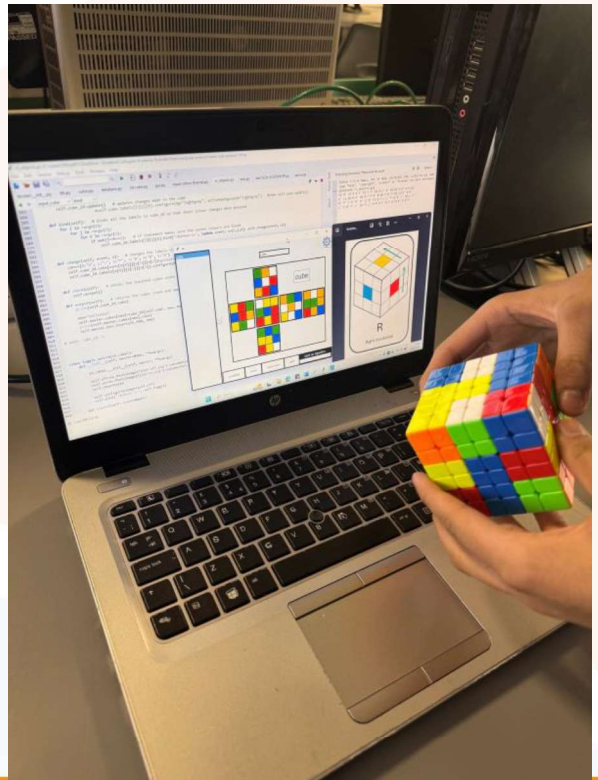
Our Year 12 students have delved into Networking and Web Technologies, covering critical areas such as the structure of the internet, network security, and web development with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. This year also marks the start of their A-level projects, a significant undertaking that challenges them to solve real-world problems. specification H446. Meanwhile, Year 13 students are in the final stretch, having completed their mock exams and now focusing on finalising their A-level projects for May 2024. This period is a testament to their hard work, embodying their journey from theoretical understanding to practical application in solving complex challenges.



Year 11: Programming Prowess

Our Year 11 cohort has shown remarkable focus on programming, sharpening their skills through TUTE lessons and practical exercises on Repl.it. Their curriculum covered an array of programming essentials, including data types, data structures, Boolean logic, conditions, SQL, and Arrays in Python. This intense focus on programming is aimed at preparing them for Paper 2 - Computational Thinking, ensuring they are well-equipped to tackle complex problem-solving scenarios with confidence and expertise.

"Yousaf Afzal – Year 13 – Programming Project, Rubix Cube solver"



Travel and Tourism

Year 12 Liverpool Focus Day

Our Year 12 Travel & Tourism students started their first focus day of the year by visiting a UK cultural destination Liverpool. They used the transport method of a train to get to the destination and completed a walking tour taking in all the key sights. They then visit the Museum of Liverpool to educate themselves on the destination. In the afternoon they visited the Tourist Information Centre where they had an educational session ran by the manager where they had the opportunity to take part in questions.



Hays Travel

Some of our Year 10 and 12 students were lucky enough to take part in a guest speaker session ran by Molly Manning from Hays Travel Redditch. She delivered a great engaging session on Hays Travel career opportunities and technology used on a day-to-day basis with customers. Students completed notes in the session and had the opportunity to ask questions.



Manchester Airport

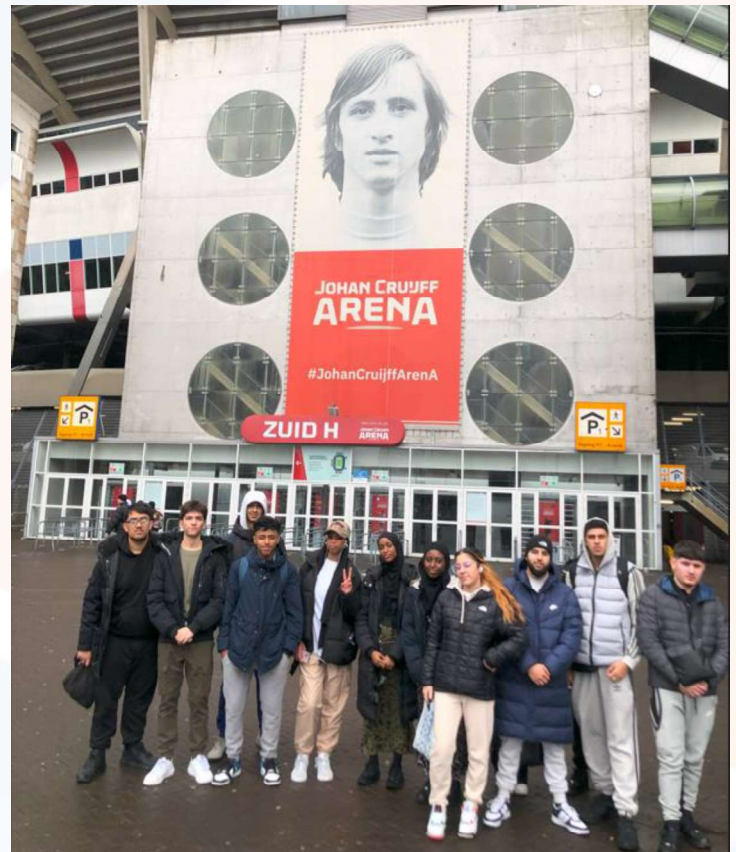
On Thursday 7th January 2024 our Year 10 and 13 Travel and Tourism students took part in a visit to Manchester Visitor Runway as part of their focus day. During the day students had a guided tour of Manchester Airport, learning about how it operates as a business, and they even got to see Emirates A380 depart to Dubai. In the afternoon they then had a taught session about technology used at the airport to enhance the visitor experience to support their coursework write ups.



Travel and Tourism/Business/IT

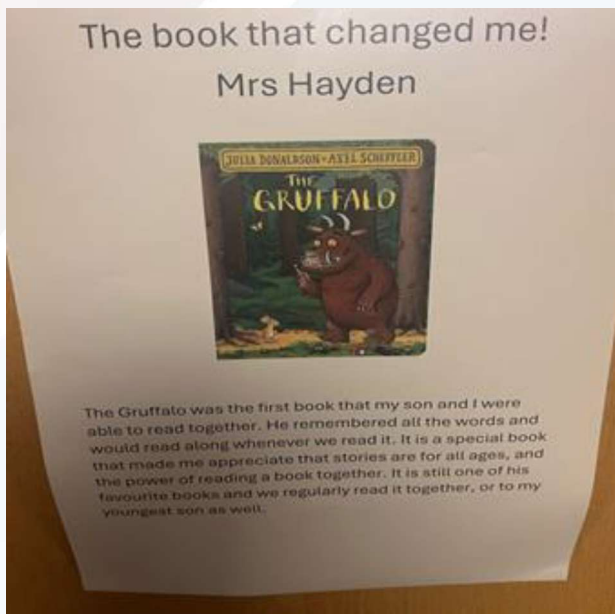
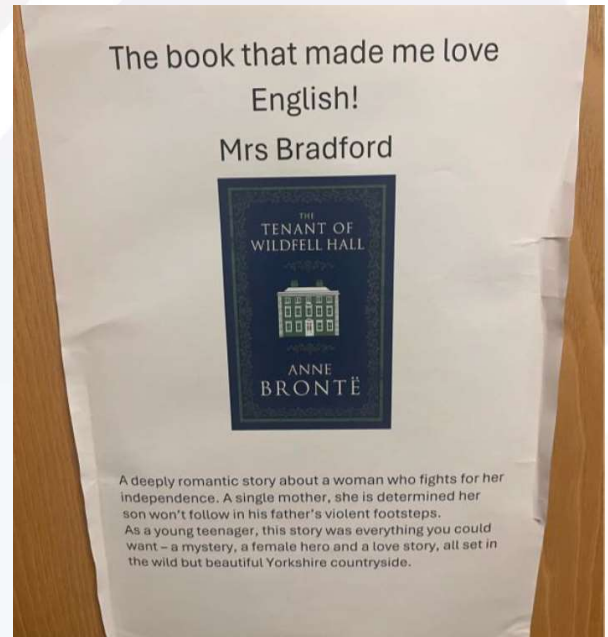
Year 13 Residential P&O Cruise

Some of our Year 13 Business, Travel and Tourism and IT students took the opportunity to take part in a 5-day cruise to The Netherlands in February 2024. This experiences allowed students to embark on a P&O cruise ship from Southampton to Amsterdam. During the trip students visited Amsterdam for a walking tour, a guided tour of the Ajax Stadium and a session delivered by members of staff on board P&O. Students enjoyed the full experience by taking part in dance classes, evening entertainment - such as the magician show, the gym facilities and taking advantage of the inclusive food in The Bay Tree restaurant where they ate dinner every night as a group. One of the highlights of the trip was on the Friday Evening all passengers on board got to experience The Black-Tie night. As you can see from the photos all students and staff were dressed up formally ready to enjoy the evening and facilities on board. On the Saturday morning members of staff on board gave up their time to deliver a session to your students about career opportunities when working on a cruise ship, they even got to meet the deputy captain. This was a great experience for all students and a memory they will cherish forever.

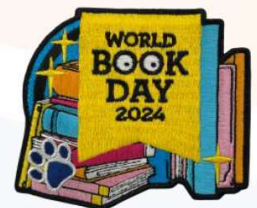


English

Books possess the remarkable ability to change our perspectives, spark our imaginations, and influence our lives. On World Book Day, English teachers celebrated this day by showcasing a book that deeply influenced them on their classroom doors. Among the titles featured were classics like 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall' and contemporary favourites such as 'Red Sky in the Morning' and 'The Gruffalo'.



Each display on the doors offered a glimpse into the transformative power of literature. These displays not only showcase the diverse tastes and experiences of our educators, but also invite students to engage in conversations about the books that have shaped their own lives. It's a small yet impactful reminder that the love of reading transcends the confines of the classroom and connects us through shared stories and experiences.



Design & Technology

BCU Futures Masterclass

In January, The Design Schools at Birmingham City University held a virtual masterclass with our Year 10 Product and Graphic Designers. Here, they explored the skills needed to be a successful design student at higher education level and what possible avenues this could lead to further down in industry. Students had the opportunity to hear from Lectures and the University in Product and Furniture Design and ask them lots of questions on what the future could hold in the world of Design. Students also started to gather inspiration for their coursework next year, looking into different research methods and techniques.

The rest of the focus day looked into the UN Global Goals where students made their own Societal Goal of tackling homelessness. Year 10 were challenged with the task of designing homeless shelters from recycled materials which could withstand the wind and rain!



Key Dates and Info

GCSE Coursework Deadline: Friday 5th April 2024

GCSE Exam: Tuesday 18th June 2024 9am

A-Level Exam: Monday 8th April 2024

A-Level Exam: Wednesday 5th June 1pm

Culture Day: Friday 12th April 2024

For Culture Day, Year 7 pupils will immerse themselves in an exploration of their cultural heritage through a dynamic fusion of Design and Technology, Music, Drama, World Languages and Art. In the Design and Technology workshops, each pupil will embark on a hands-on journey, exploring traditional crafts and modern design elements that define their culture. The culmination of the day will see all the individual design work seamlessly put together into a mural, representing the rich cultural tapestry of the Year 7 cohort!



Design & Technology



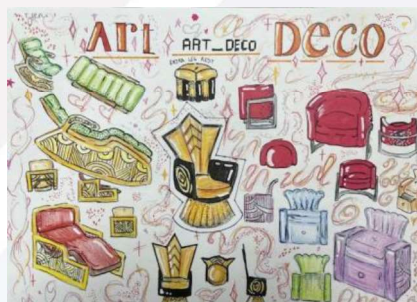
F1 in schools Shireland Collegiate Academy 2024

On the 8th of February 6 of our Year 8 pupils competed in the regional finals of the F1 in schools' championships. The team was comprised of 3 boys and 3 girls who were selected from over 50 year 8 pupils who had shown an interest in entering the competition. Amongst much more experienced competition composed of mostly older pupils of the other 40 teams our "Team Phoenix" were second in 2 of the categories of best portfolio and best engineering design. This competition required a high level of dedication from pupils who went above and beyond in preparing their branding, F1 car, and presentation talk. At the championships Shireland pupils represented the Academy in a professional and confident manner and can hold their head in their achievements. The pupils had the opportunity to improve their teamwork and problem-solving skills as well as becoming positive ambassadors of the Academy.



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

Design & Technology

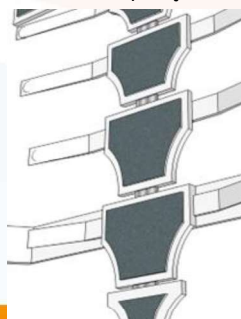
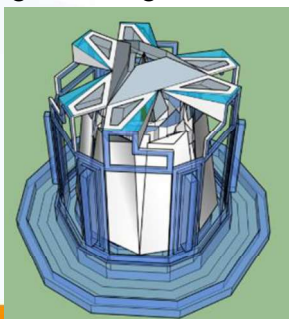


We have some exciting products being made within Design and Technology so far this year!

Our year 7's have been making textile monsters, practicing their sewing skills. Year 8's are working on Pewter casting based on Art Deco and have some lovely outcomes being produced. The year 9's have been working on a Skills Passport to prepare them for GCSEs covering a range of skills with some lovely work shown above- the chair designs were based on an art movement which they then made into cardboard prototype models.

Year 11 coursework is well underway with the deadline imminent. They have been exploring a range of machines; using the CNC, Laser cutter, 3D Printer and Vacuum former. They have been using timber, acrylic, some textiles and resin.

Year 12's are underway creating some great detailed models as well as design ideas and year 13 projects are nearly ready for submission with some great designs and ideas in each project.



Year 12 and Year 13

Reading Buddies

Year 12 students have been supporting Year 7 students every Monday during registration with their reading. Reading buddies is part of the voluntary program available to Year 12 students in the sixth form. Students have been very proactive and enthusiastic, and all Year 7 students are engaged and there is a real buzz in the library every Monday.



Well-Being Focus Day

Year 13 students took part in their well-being focus day. All students gained valuable information doing self-defence and road safety presentations.



Apprenticeship Search Fair

At the Apprenticeship Search Fair, Year 13 students meet a host of universities, HE institutions and apprenticeship providers from all over the UK. Students gained information and guidance so they can make the right decisions about their future.



World Languages

Key Stage 3

Although this has been a very short term, we have certainly packed in lots of exciting language learning opportunities! We started the term by congratulating our Christmas Card Competition winners from the Autumn Term. Students had to design a Christmas card entirely in German or French and we had so many amazing entries of very creative cards. Our 3 winners all received an Amazon Voucher for their winning entries!



Year 7 Students have particularly enjoyed taking our new German Takeaway Bags home. Each week, students are chosen randomly to take the bag which is filled with engaging and exciting activities such as "building" a German car, revising numbers, reading a German book, a CD, Flashcards and many more. There is also advice on how to further immerse in the language by using Apps, listening to music or simply watching TV in a foreign language. The students love taking the bag home and look forward to seeing who is chosen - although it is quite heavy!



All Takeaway Bags have been thoughtfully designed by our amazing Year 10 student Kainene Felix - Thank you!

Key Stage 4

As our Year 11 students are busy preparing for their exams, we are still keen to get them involved in our Language projects around the Academy. Our Year 11 French option group went to visit Year 4 students at Shireland Technology Primary school to teach them some French. We were very impressed by both the Y11's teaching skills and the Y4's French skills. In the end we even sang some songs together in French. It was a very festive and creative morning. We are hoping to repeat the experience with Year 10 students this Easter....watch this space!



World Languages

Key Stage 4

On Tuesday 19th December our year 11 and 12 German students went to the German Market in Birmingham city centre to explore German Christmas culture with all their senses and have an authentic German experience in their own city. We rose to the challenge to take pictures of all the different German words and phrases we could find and create a booklet of the vocabulary. We had a lovely time!



Key Stage 5

Our Key Stage 5 Linguists have certainly had many experiences to enhance not only their classroom teaching and learning but also their cultural capital! Year 12 and 13 German have enjoyed an online session with the British Film Institute about "Das Leben der Anderen", the Oscar-winning film they are studying for their German A-level exams. The session was very interactive and a very useful addition to our learning. The students will also be taking part in a Masterclass at the University of Birmingham on March 20th.



Pastoral School Sanctuary Award

Embracing and promoting British values and cultures is at the core of our approach, aiming to create well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to society. We believe in the importance of collaboration between educators and families, offering support to parents and guardians to actively engage in their children's educational journey within the British system.



Moreover, we are dedicated to identifying and addressing any additional needs that international new arrivals students may have, ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive educational experience for all.

The International New Arrivals Centre and the Pastoral team are very much looking forward completing the School of Sanctuary Award.



INA Core Values:

- 1.To **immerse students** into a context where they develop social and academic language.
- 2.To **promote** British values and cultures.
- 3.To **provide support** for families and encourage their involvement in the British education system.
- 4.To **provide a bridge** for students helping them to progress into mainstream Shireland lessons.
- 5.To **screen for any additional needs** these INA students may have.

Anti-bullying Ambassadors

Shireland Collegiate Academy welcomed secondary schools from across the West Midlands for an inspirational one-day anti-bullying training session, facilitated by The Diana Award.

Available to schools across the UK, the free programme sees qualified trainers teaching and empowering young people to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

Working alongside their teachers, students learnt about the types of bullying and the scenarios that can occur, both face-to-face and online. They then worked to develop the skills, resources and support needed to help them actively challenge attitudes towards bullying and how to support fellow peers in their school community.

At the end of their training, students created an action plan with teachers on how they can approach issues of bullying that may arise in their schools, fully committing themselves to the role of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

The programme's sustainable and strong peer-to-peer focused approach to anti-bullying work has gained world-class recognition and reputation, placing the scheme and its ambassador schools at the forefront of positive change across the UK and beyond.

Moir Green, Principal at Shireland Collegiate Academy, said: "We were very proud and privileged to have hosted the anti-bullying training programme at our school with The Diana Award."



Our students, now proud Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, stand as role models, showcasing resilience, empathy and leadership within our school community. This experience went beyond skill-building, fostering compassionate advocates who actively help us to nurture a positive and inclusive school culture, where everyone feels safe, happy and valued."

We are delighted to have collaborated with Shireland Technology Primary to host their anti-bullying training session and look forward to working with them in the near future.

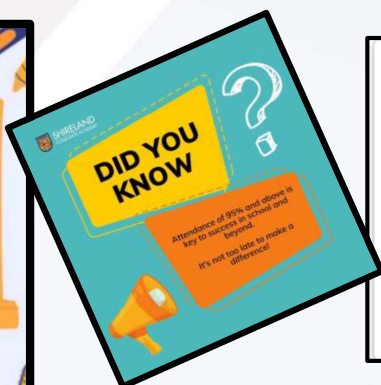
Year 11

Mock Exams

It has been a very busy term for year 11. Mock exams have been completed, resits in the BTEC subjects carried out and controlled assessments completed. This is a step in the right direction for Year 11 and we wish all out students the best of luck as they receive these mock exams results over the forthcoming weeks.

Easter Study Support:

Year 11 are invited to attend the Easter study support sessions.
Please see information below.



Easter Study Support – Week 1

Open to everyone!

Monday 25 March						Tuesday 26 March						Wednesday 27 March								
Breakfast						Breakfast						Breakfast								
8:30	Higher			Foundation			8:30	Higher			Foundation			8:30	Higher			Foundation		
9:30	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci	9:30	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci	9:30	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci
	A	B	C	A	B	C		A	B	C	A	B	C		A	B	C	A	B	C
	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A	B	C	A
	C	A	B	C	A	B		C	A	B	C	A	B		C	A	B	C	A	B
	A	B	C	A	B	C		A	B	C	A	B	C		A	B	C	A	B	C
	Lunch together in the canteen						Lunch together in the canteen						Lunch together in the canteen							
12:30						12:30						12:30								
13:00	Option 1					13:00	Option 2					13:00	Option 3							
14:00						14:00						14:00								
14:30						14:30						14:30								

Easter Study Support – Week 2

Open to everyone!

Wednesday 3 April						Thursday 4 April						Friday 5 April					
Breakfast						Breakfast						Breakfast					
Higher			Foundation			Higher			Foundation			Higher			Foundation		
Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci	Eng	Ma	Sci
9	A	B	C	A	B	C	9	A	B	C	A	B	C	9	A	B	C
10	C	A	B	C	A	B	10	C	A	B	C	A	B	10	C	A	B
11	B	C	A	B	C	A	11	B	C	A	B	C	A	11	B	C	A
Lunch together in the canteen						Lunch together in the canteen						Lunch together in the canteen					
12:30						12:30						12:30					
Option 4						Community Language						Community Language					
14:00						14:00						14:00					
14:30						14:30						14:30					



Year 11 Prom – Friday 12th July – Tickets on SALE NOW!!!!
£10.00 – See parent pay!

Some of our stars this term:



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

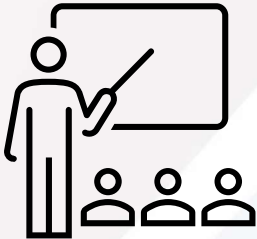
Mentoring

January was national Mentoring Month

What our staff say about each other here at Shireland:

A Sheffield Thankful for her presence and motivation around the academy. Really great curriculum lead and innovator.

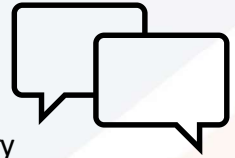
S Wills-Sagoo Thank you so much for all your hard work and guidance during my ECT period. You are a brilliant mentor!



A Smith This mentor has made me feel extremely welcome at Shireland. They have continuously provided me with invaluable advice, feedback and support. Andy has made the transition into my first placement extremely smooth, and I am considerably grateful to have had them as my first PGCE placement mentor

A Thornton Champion and advocate for those who feel they do not have a voice.

B Brogan For the continued extracurricular opportunities he puts for the students. Building their confidence, skills and healthy mindset both physically and mentally.



S Cooper Very approachable and understanding. Always supports you and gives excellent advice- thanks Sue!

What our students say about each other here at Shireland:

Mrs Laing Mrs Laing is amazing. She has made music one of my favourite subjects and I couldn't ask for a better music teacher. She has helped me achieve so many goals like my music theory grade 1, musical theatre grade 5, and many music performances. Thank you, Mrs Laing.

Mrs Bradley For helping us find potential career pathways in our futures lessons and ensuring her lessons are interactive and as productive as possible.

Mr Archer For being a great history teacher and always delivering his lessons with enthusiasm and making them very enjoyable.

Miss Hayward For being my inspiration because she pushes me to fulfil my potential in art and her teaching methods are impeccable. She is my favourite teacher.



Mr Madaher Because he's such a good teacher and he's super kind to me. He's always supportive and I'm very happy I had the opportunity to be taught by him.



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

Culture Day Friday 12th April

See what's happening in Year 11:



Aria's Sweets

As part of our community culture involvement this year, year 11 have Aria's local sweet shop sharing their delicious treats for the students to purchase. The sweets will be made up of traditional American and Japanese treats. Students in year 11 can purchase these for £1.00. 50% will go to Cancer Research UK.

Cancer Research UK

As part of our re-use culture and massive boom with second hand clothing sales across the area, we encourage all of year 11 to have a 'Spring Clean' through their wardrobes and donate as much as they can. Cancer research are in on Friday 12th April talking about the ethos and importance of our reuse society and the impact this has on the development of Cancer research. We strongly ask for donations for them to take away with them on the day! We appreciate your support; All bags are to be brought into Mrs Prince Head of Year 11



Year 11 plan for culture day:

Who am I? – Students can bring in personal items which identify their culture and share these with their peers

Music and culture – Students are encouraging to create music based on their experiences of their culture

Art and culture – Students will have the chance to redesign their own clothes for a fashion show

Food and Culture – Students can purchase additional food from the canteen at break and lunch using Parent Pay or cash on the day and also able to bring in traditional sweets or food to share in their form groups

Prizes are up for grabs for any students exceling on the day, dedicated involvement and contribution to celebrating diversity.