

SUMMER

EDITION 3



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

PROUDLY PART OF THE



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

Summer Edition | 2025

A Remarkable Year in Sixth Form at Shireland Collegiate Academy

As we reach the end of another academic year, we take great pride in celebrating the achievements, growth, and spirit of our Sixth Form students.

Sixth Form Rated Outstanding

We were delighted to receive an **Outstanding** rating this year—recognising the dedication of our staff, the ambition of our students, and the strength of our Sixth Form provision. Thank you to all the students and staff for achieving this rating!

Global Opportunities: Dubai Work Experience

In January, 30 Year 13 students took part in a two-week work experience in Dubai. Hosted by prestigious 5* hotels including the Sheraton and Grand Hyatt, students gained hands-on experience in HR, marketing, finance, and front of house. Cultural highlights included visits to the Burj Khalifa and a desert safari. The feedback from students and employers has been overwhelmingly positive.

Sporting Success: Birmingham Rockets Partnership

This year saw the launch of our partnership with the **City of Birmingham Rockets Basketball Club**, making us an official Rockets Hub. Over 150 students now train weekly across the school including a Sixth form team. The programme is nurturing talent and building confidence, teamwork, and community spirit.

University Access: The Elephant Group

Our collaboration with **The Elephant Group** continues to thrive. Sixth Form students played a key role in recruiting the new Midlands Programme Coordinator, gaining valuable experience in professional interviews. Through this partnership, students benefit from expert university guidance, including personal statement support and interview preparation.

Looking Ahead

Exciting new partnerships are on the horizon: A growing collaboration with **NMITE**, including hands-on engineering workshops. Expanded links with universities such with 25 organisations signed up to our freshers fair. More enrichment, employer engagement, and curriculum-linked experience. Finally, an exciting new partnership with Aston Villa foundations for September 2026.

Academic Excellence

Our students have shown exceptional dedication to their studies. Many are now preparing for top Russell Group universities and competitive apprenticeships, supported by our **Futures Programme** and Sixth Form team.

Celebrating Together

We ended the year with a joyful **Year 13 leavers' celebration**, and Year 12s enjoyed a well-earned rewards trip to Bassetts Pole Paintballing and a student lead Rewards Focus day which was incredible. a perfect way to celebrate their hard work and camaraderie.

A Final Word

To our students: you've grown academically and personally. You've led, supported, and inspired. We are incredibly proud of you and excited for what lies ahead. To our incredible Year 13 students as results day draws near, we're filled with pride and excitement to share this milestone with you. You've grown, persevered, and inspired us all. You are now truly Shireland Made ready to take on the world and shape your future. We can't wait to celebrate with you. Here's to a year of success and to the bright futures you're building!

Mr Brogan
Head of Sixth



SHIRELAND
SIXTH FORM

UNLOCK THE FUTURE YOU DESERVE

Join Shireland Sixth Form and leverage our exclusive partnership with The Elephant Group, empowering students to excel academically and prepare for their futures.

- Access the latest information and advice for your educational and career choices.
- Participate in tailored workshops on personal statements, CVs, and more.
- Engage in university experiences including visits, day trips, and residential summer schools.
- Receive dedicated study support to help you reach your academic goals.
- Gain practical insights through work placements with corporate partners.
- Get assistance for medicine and Oxbridge applications, including interviews.
- Connect with industry professionals and expand your career prospects.
- Access internships and job placements through The Elephant Group's network.



APPLY
TODAY



The
Elephant
Group



Year 13 Dubai Work Experience – Jan 2025

Dubai- Work Placements

Monday 27th January 2025 30 of your Year 13 Business, Travel and Tourism and IT students experienced a once in a lifetime opportunity as part of the Turing grant. As a sixth form we secured 30 placements in some of the most well-known 5* luxury resorts in Dubai such as Sheraton Mall of Emirates, Grand Hyatt Dubai, Four Points by Sheraton and many more. Students spent 10 working days completed a range of skills and expertise in areas such as HR, finance, marketing and front of house. They were welcomed by trained staff and managers of the hotels and had a buddy to support their experience.

Students also had amazing excursions planned to get an insight into the United Arab Emirates culture. Activities such as desert safari, local camp dinner, Dubai marina, shopping malls, Burj Khalifa, fountain show, global village and the incredible Atlantis Water Park. As our 2 weeks work placement came to an end students participated in graduation ceremonies, leaving certificates and showered with gifts by the hospitality staff to show their appreciation. This was an amazing achievement for both staff and students as this is the first ever cohort to participate in overseas work experience placements.

Even some of students were offered jobs at the hotels and will be welcomed back with open arms in their future journeys. What an experience end their last year at Shireland.



Year 13 Dubai Work Experience – Jan 2025



Quotes from HR directors

Providing hands-on opportunities and sharing our expertise is something we take great pride in, and it's always rewarding to see talent students engaged and eager to learn. We appreciate their enthusiasm and professionalism throughout their time with us.

We look forward to future collaborations and to welcoming more students for similar experiences. Please do not hesitate to reach out whenever we can be of support.

Sheraton Jumeriah Beach

We would like to extend our appreciation for the opportunity to host Qasim and Kirills for their two-week hospitality industry exposure at our property. During their time with us, they displayed enthusiasm, curiosity, and a genuine willingness to learn. They engaged well with our teams and showed a keen interest in understanding various aspects of hospitality operations.

Four Points by Sheraton

The interns demonstrated great enthusiasm, cooperation, and a strong willingness to learn. Their eagerness to gain hands-on experience was commendable, and our team thoroughly enjoyed working with them. Their proactive attitude and curiosity made a positive impression, and we are confident that they will excel in their future endeavors.

Sheraton Mall of Emirates



Spring Term



Elephant Group Midlands Interviews

Our Partnership with the Elephant group continues to flourish, so when an interview panel was needed to speak to candidates for the role of Programme Coordinator, we were asked to support, along with the groups CEO and other herd members. Year 12 & 13 students and some of our SLT teams took the time to meet candidates and provide their feedback, forming an invaluable part of the recruitment process. It was such a privilege to be part of the process and we can't wait to continue to build the partnership!

SCA Sixth Form leads on fundraising efforts

SCA Sixth Form have been working hard to raise funds for our first whole school charity this term. With the fundraising efforts of our Sixth Form Volunteer team, who sold just under 5000 samosas, and our Non Uniform Day we have raised over £1500 for Birmingham Hospice! Thank you to all who contributed. This in turn meant that we could "adopt" a bull calf that will be soon adorned with Shireland patterns and colours to go on and be part of a city-wide art project in the Summer with "Wild in Art". All students have been asked to submit their artistic designs of what they think SCA's diversity and culture looks like for their chance for their artwork to be seen by visitors to Birmingham across the summer months. Our Arts Apps students, and Designers and Artists from KS4 and KS5 will be bringing these ideas to life alongside our talented Art department

Futures Programme

Across the Spring term we have been privileged to welcome a variety of inspiring guest speakers to talk to our Year 12 and 13 groups during their Futures sessions. Futures is a programme designed to motivate, inform and ignite curiosity for next steps. Whether that be for an apprenticeship, the world of work or higher education. Students have welcomed the following visitors this term:

- Mark Russell – CEO of Children's Society
- Peter Radford - Beyond This
 - Warwick Scholars
- Faith Idiahi – Alumni Student
- Miss Bans – Alumni Student
- Mock interviews with SIPS
 - ASK Apprenticeships
- Cambridge University Roadshow
 - PWC



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Celebrating Success

University Applications

Our Year 13's are starting receive some of their University offers this term for their next steps. Offers are coming in from University of Birmingham, Sheffield, Keele, Worcester, Aston, Queens Mary University of London, University of Budapest, University College of Birmingham, De Monfort, Plymouth, Liverpool, Exeter, Manchester and University of Derby.

We wish them all the best with their upcoming exams.

Celebratory Breakfast

In February, we had a celebratory breakfast for our Sixth Form students who were making tracks in their progress and efforts towards post 16 life. Well done to all students who are making incredible progress and following the SCA Sixth Form ethos: honesty, opportunity and commitment.

We look forward to our next lot of success stories next term!



Shireland Basketball continues to hit new heights

This year, our Post 16 basketball team played their first-ever season in the AOC league. The team has been extremely competitive and performed at a very high level throughout the season. A noticeable highlight was the record 83-32 win, showcasing their skill and determination. Their impressive debut season is a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Her Honour Judge Katherine Tucker delivers online seminar

SCA Sixth Form were visited by a sitting judge at the academy to speak with our sixth form students on Wednesday 12th March. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain firsthand insights into the legal profession, hear about her career journey, and be inspired by her experiences within the judiciary.



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TRAIN LIKE THE PROS

Level up with Shireland Sixth Form
and City of Birmingham Rockets



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Your future starts here. Elevate your game with our specialist sports training programme.

- Get expert-level coaching from the Birmingham Rockets.
- Stay ahead with custom strength and skills sessions.
- Excel on and off the court with specialist workshops including leadership, nutrition, and wellbeing.
- Compete in weekly games and let your talent shine.
- Perfect for your goals in sports and academics.

DON'T JUST PLAY THE GAME.
OWN IT.



Start your journey now!
Apply today at Shireland Sixth Form.

New Experiences

Year 12 Elephant Group Visit UCL for Personal Statement Workshop

On Thursday 22nd May, our Year 12 Elephant Group cohort had the fantastic opportunity to attend a personal statement workshop hosted at University College London (UCL). The day was packed with insightful guidance, practical tips, and tailored support to help our students get ahead in crafting compelling personal statements for their university applications.

The workshop was not only informative and relevant but also incredibly motivating for our students as they begin to shape their future pathways. A huge thank you to Chloe and Beth for delivering such an engaging and impactful session—your support made a real difference!

Good bye and Good Luck Year 13!

Friday 23rd May meant the start of Study leave for our Year 13 cohort for their summer examinations. We celebrated in style with a leaver's assembly, awards ceremony and a celebratory lunch in the base to say goodbye. We will miss this cheeky year group and wish them all the luck in the world for their upcoming examination results.



New Year 12 Taster Day

In late June, we opened our doors to the new prospective cohort of Year 12's for their taster day in Sixth Form. Students were given taster sessions in their chosen options, a chance to meet and greet the Sixth Form Team and their new form tutors and socialise with both the current Year 12s and each other. The day was a huge success, with over 150 students in attendance. We cannot wait to welcome them officially in September.

Year 12 Rewards Trip- Bassetts Pole Paintballing

The summer term means a chance for staff and students to celebrate the achievements of the academic year. Year 12s made their trip to Bassetts Pole, to complete in three rounds of paintballing on a sunny Friday June afternoon. Over 60 students went on the trip to try their hand at the game. Thank you to Mrs Dhillon for organising a thrilling experience.



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NOT QUITE READY FOR A LEVELS?

**WE'VE GOT
YOU COVERED**

NEW LEVEL 2 COURSES STARTING **SEPTEMBER 2025**

At Shireland Sixth Form, we know that every student's journey is different. That's why our new level 2 pathway is designed to support your next steps and move confidently toward your goals.

Why choose our level 2 programme?

- Tailored courses designed to support progression onto A level and vocational studies
- Choose one of the following subjects to study alongside IT: Business, Sport and Social Science
- Resit English and Maths if needed to meet future entry requirements
- Build confidence, boost skills and get back on track for your success

You'll benefit from a flexible curriculum tailored to your goals, delivered by a Sixth Form renowned for its strong academic ethos and supportive learning environment. With our expert teachers, personalised support and cutting-edge resources, you'll be equipped to thrive and step confidently into your future.

Whether you're aiming to move onto A level and vocational studies at Shireland or exploring new opportunities, we're here to help you succeed.

Splash of Orange



CHARITY
SPLASH OF ORANGE

shireland Sixth Form Fundraising Team

In support of
acorns
the local children's charity

Add a splash of orange to your uniform in support of Children's Charity Acorns. Wear an additional orange accessory alongside your usual uniform (think orange t-shirt, orange trainers, or orange hair accessories!)

We will also be doing a sponsored bike ride with staff across the day cycling the length of England, that's a whopping 556 miles! You'll be able to cheer them on and sponsor them over by the Sixth Form block.

Friday,
4th July 2025

Thank you for your support.

SHIRELAND SIXTH FORM

Donations accepted through
Parent Pay or by cash on the day

Sixth Formers cycle to raise funds for Acorns Children's Charity

Friday 4th July was the summer fundraising event for SCA with a splash of orange to uniform and a bike-a-thon for students in the sixth form and staff. The epic challenge of virtually riding the length of the England (556 miles) across the day to help raise funds bought together the school community, with students cheering on the cyclists throughout the day.

In total, we raised over £300 and smashed the original 554 mile target, cycling a whopping 950+ across the seven hours! Well done to all those involved and thank you to anyone who donated!



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Summer Academies with the Elephant Group

🎉 Huge congratulations to our Year 12 students!

In the closing weeks of summer term, 23 Year 12 students successfully completed their **Level 3 Emergency First Aid at Work** qualification.

This fantastic opportunity was organised by our brilliant **MedSoc society**, which is led by our student **Laiba**.

Well done to everyone involved! 💪

Summer Academy Trips

As part of the **Elephant Group Summer Academy**, students have taken part in a series of inspiring university visits and academic masterclasses designed to stretch their thinking, build confidence, and give them a head start on their journey to higher education.

University Visits include

Students visited some of the UK's most prestigious institutions, including:

- Kings College, London
- Jesus College, Oxford
- Pembroke College, Cambridge
- The Bartlett, UCL
- University of Sheffield
- University College London (UCL)
- Durham University
- University of the Arts London (UAL)
- Trinity College, Cambridge
- Exeter Summer Academy Residential

Our students have had a fantastic experience so far"



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Field Studies Council Trip



Y12 Biology Field Trip

In May, our Year 12 biologists headed out of the classroom and into the wild with the Field Studies Council, immersing themselves in biodiversity fieldwork techniques.

The day kicked off with a safety briefing, then we tackled habitat comparisons—sampling species, calculating diversity, and analysing data using real statistical tests.

It was fantastic seeing students trying methods like interrupted belt transects and quadrat sampling firsthand. One standout moment was when a dedicated student spent most of the day swatting flies away with their clipboard—nature's own resistance training!

Watching the students push beyond their comfort zones, enthusiastically identifying organisms in woodland and meadow habitats, was a real joy to behold. The teamwork, curiosity and laughter (and the occasional fly-swatter!) made it an unforgettable day.

Here's to more adventures in science—where learning meets laughter and the natural world becomes our classroom.



Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

Y12 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Success!

We're thrilled to share that several of our Year 12 students recently took part in the prestigious **Cambridge Chemistry Challenge** —a 90-minute paper set by Cambridge chemists to stretch and challenge A-Level thinkers

The competition isn't about rote learning—it's designed to spark curiosity and push students to apply chemistry in inventive, real world ways . We're delighted to say our students performed brilliantly! Many received **Copper, Silver & Gold** awards—an outstanding achievement reflecting real dedication and problem-solving flair.

Please congratulate the following students for their success:

Gold Award - Top 10% of students in the challenge

Zaynab Khan
Zain Khanalvi
Ishit Mittal
Jacob Robinson

Silver Award - Top 25% of Students in the challenge

Zayd Abidin
Jasleen Kaur
Alen Pashaj
Deklan Johnson-Smith
Jacqueline Nuamah
Ayoub Alaa Shafeek Al
Rawi

Copper Award - Top 60% of students in the challenge

Hafash Abdul-Razaq
Halima Arab
Bilal Ali
Sophia Akhter Hayes
Shazad Omarzai
Laiba Hussain
Ahmed Javed
Aroush Mushtaq
Pearl Almeida
Rohi Fanneh



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TRAIN LIKE A PRO PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION

Join Shireland's Post-16 Football Academy and elevate your game with our specialist sports training programme.

- Train with top coaches and represent the Academy team.
- Compete in official matches and showcase your skills.
- Boost your performance with specialised strength and conditioning training.
- Use Veo camera insights to refine your game.
- Excel on and off the pitch with workshops in leadership, nutrition, and wellbeing.
- Gear up with our complete academy kit and tracksuit.

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Wild in Art – Live in Brum

SCA Sixth Form leads on fundraising efforts

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(**Abena** is Sandi's Ghana day name which leads to the characteristics of being **Warm, gentle, eloquent, compassionate, resourceful, responsible, reliable and caring**).

This summer, try and find our SCA bull somewhere in the city as part of the Wild in Art Summer project! I hear they may be close to Brindley Place... send us photos if you manage to find them!





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2025 HEADLINES

New Football Academy for
September 2025

Over £2000 raised for Charities

New Partnerships Secured

Successful Summer academy with
Elephant Group

10 Student Leadership roles
appointed

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