

SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

"Striving for Excellence"



Our Vision:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

## **SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER**

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to our end of the spring term newsletter. This term we have continued to face the challenges of the pandemic but, like many within society, we have risen to these challenges and, wherever possible, tried to offer a normal routine in very unusual circumstances.

I would like to start by saying how proud I am of all students and staff, not just for the amazing way everyone has adapted to remote learning and the dramatic changes in education in a short space of time, but also for the excellent way we have all returned to face-to-face learning. Both students and staff have embraced our return by displaying the values of our school and their attitude reflects the high aspirations and expectations we have of everyone within our community. Even in the face of these challenges, we want all our students to believe in themselves, believe in a brighter future and that they have the potential to make a positive contribution as a global citizen.

The summer term is just around the corner, but for now, it is important that, as families, we take some time this Easter not only to reflect on the world around us but also to try to give our bodies and minds a break from these challenges and return refreshed for the final term of the academic year. For Year 11 and 13 it is important that during the break you are finding the balance between preparing and recuperating so you are mentally, physically and academically prepared for your assessments. These assessments will provide the vital evidence we required to further identify and confirm your working levels. I know this has been a difficult time for you all and living through this while in an examination year is not fair but we cannot change the global situation. All we can do is control the controllable and what we can control is how prepared you are, so please make sure you are in a position to demonstrate your unlimited potential after the Easter break.

We continue to plan for an exciting term and we hope that the roadmap out of Lockdown allows all our plans to take place. These plans include catch up sessions for students from Year 7 to 13, including Saturday school and online support. Team building events to help students to physically and mentally catch up will also be offered as well our free extra-curricular clubs, which include the restarting of our boxing club. We will also be starting work with our local primary schools as we continue plans to work closely with our community and create a sharing and collaborative environment. We are excited to be planning for our Year 6 into 7 transition programme and we are delighted to confirm that the number of students wishing to join our school community has risen significantly in the last 12 months. We are tremendously proud of this as we continue our significant improvement in all areas of our school.

This summer, we will continue to improve our site and learning environment and our students and staff can look forward to:

- 2 new iMac-suites for our Performing Arts faculty
- Extension and refurbishment of the school fitness suite
- New environmentally friendly lighting rolled out across the school
- Additional refurbishment of the school canteen
- New flooring for our refurbished classrooms
- State of the art science lab plus new equipment across the entire department
- Revamp of the school's Art and Photography department
- New Stair Art
- And much, much more!

Our vision and values remain as strong as ever in these challenging times. We remain proud of what we are and what we stand for, a diverse school serving a talented community. We hope that the world becomes more stable soon, but we promise to continue to do all we can to protect the future of everyone at Shirley High School.

Have a wonderful Easter break, stay safe and see you for the Summer Term. Mr T Myton - Principal #weareshirley

#### **Our Mission:**

Shirley High School's mission is to offer a high quality education to all learners within an inclusive and respectful environment. An environment where all are consistently challenged and supported to be successful, well rounded global citizens.



#### SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST:

Monday 19 April 2021 - School opens for Summer Term (Year 11 & 13 only) Tuesday 20 April 2021 - School open for Summer Term (all Years) Monday 19—23 April 2021 - Year 13 1:1 Meetings Tuesday 27 April 2021 - Year 9 Parents' and Options Evening Monday 3 May 2021 - School closed - Bank Holiday Friday 14 May 2021 - Year 13 Study Leave begins Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June 2021 - School closed - Half Term (1 week) Monday 7 - 16 June 2021 - Year 12 PPE's Monday 14 - 25 June 2021 - Year 10 PPE 1 Monday 21 June 2021 - Year 12 UCAS Information Evening Tuesday 6 July 2021 - Year 10 Parents' Evening Friday 23 July 2021 - School closed for Staff Training Day (no students in school) Monday 26 July 2021 - School closes for Summer break

Award Winning Sixth Form with Outstanding Results in both A Level and Btec Pathways

Ofsted rated 'GOOD' 2019

## SHS Sixth Form



# Why go anywhere else?

#### SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

#### WHY GO ANYWHERE ELSE?

In 2020, Shirley High Sixth Form continued its track record of success despite the challenging circumstances faced by students across the country. An award winning Sixth Form with strong results in both A level and BTEC level three courses.

We offer an extensive range of A levels alongside well established BTEC level three diplomas and we also offer a popular level 2 course in Health and Social Care. As a Centre for Excellence for the Arts, we offer first rate Performing Arts facilities and courses.

High expectations, strong teaching, individual support both academically and pastorally are what we offer to all Sixth Form students.

If you would like to be part of this growing success, please see our course guide and application form on the school website. We will close applications after the Easter break but you are still welcome to apply on Year 11 Results Day in August. Please see our website for further details after Easter.

Many of our Year 13 have just completed their UCAS application forms and have applied for various courses across the country including at Russell Group universities.

Due to our reputation as a first class Sixth Form applications, this year have hit an all time high. Unfortunately due to the current situation with Covid 19 we have been unable to meet all applicants in person, however, we have had the pleasure of meeting all our applicants virtually.

As a Post 16 student studying at Shirley High Sixth Form your education will be personalised and supportive. Here at Shirley Sixth Form you will not be a student lost in a huge organisation or a number on a data sheet but very much an individual who is recognised for your unique qualities.

Applicants will be invited for an Induction Day in June and enrolment will commence on 12 August 2021.

Should you have any queries please email kelly@shirley.croydon.sch.uk

Mrs C Kelly - Sixth Form Administrator

#### **REMOTE LEARNING**

We were delighted to accept twenty brand new Raspberry Pi computer kits donated by The Raspberry Pi Foundation! These were distributed to our learners during Lockdown so that they were able to access their live lessons. @raspberrypi

#### T Myton - Principal



#### **REMOTE LEARNING**

We have now returned to face to face teaching and I would like to take the opportunity to praise all learners for their hard work and commitment during this period of remote learning. I would also like to express my gratitude to all of the parents / carers who have encouraged their children to engage with remote learning. In addition, I would also like to thank all staff, not just teachers for their dedication and resilience; planning and delivering outstanding lessons, supervising learners who attended our Critical Key Workers and Vulnerable learners provision, securing devices for our learners and delivering devices to our learners' homes.

As a Senior Leadership Team, we were pleased to have secured nearly 300 laptops, over 20 computers, Wi-Fi dongles, Wi-Fi routers and Sim cards with free mobile phone data to help learners access their remote learning. We were grateful to all learners and parents / carers who completed the remote learning questionnaires and would like to remind all stakeholders, that general remote learning feedback and remote learning queries can be sent to remotelearning@shirley.croydon.sch.uk

#### **Mr C Nicholson**

Associate Vice Principal - (With Responsibility for Remote Learning)

#### LATERAL FLOW TESTING IN SCHOOL

Lateral Flow Device testing's (LFD) single most important objective is to identify asymptomatic carriers of the Covid-19 virus. A small team of trained staff members have, during the past couple of weeks, successfully registered and completed almost 2,500 LFD's on our students and staff. A truly amazing effort by all. Thankfully not one positive test resulted! This means that, providing testing continues at the same levels in the home and everyone continues to adhere to the other measures such as the wearing of a face mask, the school will remain a safe place to learn.

Testing has now moved to the home and providing the school has received consent, students will have already received six tests and more will be issued prior to the Easter break. If you did not previously give consent for testing in school but wish to conduct tests at home, please let us know.

#### Mr K Morgan - Facilities Manager





#### TUTOR2U

Massive congrats and thank you to Mrs Champ (3rd in ICT & Business Studies) who won a competition for resources from Tutor2u for A Level Business - worth over £13 per student; flash cards & knowledge books for Theme 1 Business A Level.

T Myton - Principal

#### PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

William Milne (Year 11), was delighted to win the Principal's Award last half term (£100 worth of Amazon Vouchers).

William put his voucher towards buying a new video camera so that he can improve his filmmaking! Lights, Camera & Action!

T Myton - Principal



#### **PE DEPARTMENT**

Despite being in Lockdown, the PE department have been promoting to students that we have not been 'Locked in' and as such continued to promote Physical Education throughout the remote learning period.

Since the start of January, students have been having remote PE lessons and have been provided with a fortnightly PE Newsletter which has linked closely to the PE curriculum and promoted the importance of physical activity and well-being.

SHS PE NEWSLETTER: ISSUE 3			
WELCOME TO THE SHS PE NEWSLETTER We will be using this to pupped up with the Computing lesson and tasks for PI lessons during locidiour. Each forting the will update the newsletter and also you to send in your completed PE TRACKER through your PE Geogregicalismoom assignment handwin bool. On the last page you can third a list of names of students that completed the trackers to a good standard! Well done to you all!!	22nd Feb- 7th March 2021	Lesson of the week - COMPULSORY! Week 1 (22nd - 28th) Week 1 Compulsory Lesson	
LITERACY CORNER- Tasks of the week Year 7 - Label 8-10 muscles on the human body Year 8 - Label 8 muscles and 8 bones on the human body Year 9 - Design a daily meal to include ALL components of a healthy, balanced diet Year 10 - Research what component of a diet can		Week 2 (1st March - 7th March) Week 2 Compulsory Lesson part 1 Week 2 Compulsory Lesson part2 Answer the questions on the tracker	Monday 22nd February 2021 Toesday 23nd February 2021
Complete this on the tracker in the appropriate section This links to Key Vocabulary we expect students to know in Physical Education	13	<u>related to these lessons</u>	×

Students were given ownership of their learning whilst provided with compulsory and suggested lessons and activities to take part in. Students submitted their trackers along with photos and videos and have really impressed the PE teachers during this period; Well done everyone!

Below is a sample of some excellent trackers which were produced.

#### Key words:

- outwit to get the better of someone through superior ingenuity or cleverness
- tactics actions that are specifically planned to achieve a certain goal
- Strategy a plan of action designed to achieve a specific goal
- stimuli things that cause a specific functional reaction
- reaction time the time taken to respond to a stimulus
- Side-step when you step sideways one way but change direction to evade an opposing player
- dummy a tactic used by a player to trick an opponent by pretending to pass but keeping possession
- Geelposts

My marker made of two balled pairs of socks, my makeshift goal made of two books, and a stress toy as a ball in my bedroom.

selective attention - filtering out irrelevant stimuli

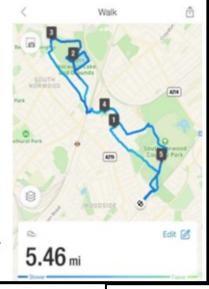




2 Hour walk to and back from South Norwood Lake (5.46 miles, 12,488 steps)

We started by walking up the road and through the South Norwood Country Park, then walked up the roads to the Lake, which we circled once before exiting through the fields behind it. We walked the longer way back down to the roads and retraced our steps back down the roads to the Harrington Road tram stop, then back through the Country Park and finally down the road home.

I was happy to get out after a while after being inside for a while, especially in the lovely sunny weather.



Catherine Saunders 10Y - CREATORS HOUSE

#### **PE DEPARTMENT**





#### **HOUSE COMPETITIONS**

In addition to the Newsletter activities set by the PE department, there has also been the opportunity to take part in a whole school House PE Competition to gain House Points.

The 'Travel to Tokyo' event has required students (staff and families) to take part in physical activity by tracking their steps / distance and uploading to a leaderboard to contribute to the total house distance. Whilst travelling in house, teams participants have followed a virtual journey to Tokyo, exploring different cities around the world, discovering more about Japan and the Olympic Games.

As you can see, the current leaders are the Directors House, 25, 060Km away from Tokyo. So far, students at the school have logged a total of 286 sessions so far (8 March 2021) which is an impressive amount of physical activity and proves that our students value their physical activity.

#### CAREERS WEEK

Careers week was also promoted in PE lessons during the Month of March. Students were given access to various career related videos and links within their Google classrooms to explore careers related to the sport and physical activity industry. One video even included a personal account of an ex-student of Shirley High explaining her involvement in Circus performing, demonstrating the Shirley Value of Creativity!

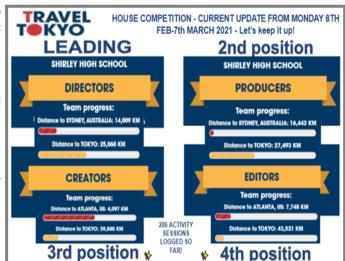
Students will also notice the new careers notice boards relating to Physical Education in the Gym and teachers will continue to signpost careers during lessons upon return to school.

#### And finally...

As the daffodils begin to Spring, the Summer term is well under way. All students will require their outside PE kit for their lessons. Please ensure you are prepared for your lessons and speak to your teachers if you have any concerns or questions about PE and Kit.

We are pleased to welcome back our students and hope you enjoy our PE lessons together at last !

#### **PE Department**





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#### PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

There is now a vacancy for 1 Parent Governor at the school. This vacancy is required to be filled by an election and you are invited to stand for election as a Parent Governor.

Parent Governors are elected from the parents / carers of students who are currently registered at the school and serve a four year term of office.

A governor of an academy is also a trustee, as the academy is a registered charity and a director as we are registered as a company with Companies House.

The Governing Body has three core strategic actions:

- Decision making and vision setting
- Accountability
- Driving up school and student performance

As a governor you will be required to attend a termly meeting of the Governing Body and a termly meeting of the Achievement Committee and make occasional visits to the school. You will also need to attend governor training sessions; these are free of charge and mostly take place in the evenings.

We currently have a particular need for governors who have expertise in marketing and legal /HR matters, and would be pleased if parents / carers with this experience stand for election. However, these skills are not exclusive and all eligible parents / carers regardless of skills and experience can stand for election.

If you would like to find out more about school governance, please visit the National Governors Association website: http://www.nga.org.uk/Home.aspx or contact our Clerk to Governors, Mrs Lydia Morgans: morgans@shirley.croydon.sch.uk There are very few people who cannot be governors. However, there is an eligibility form to be signed and appointment as a governor will be subject to a satisfactory advanced DBS check.

Each person standing for election must prepare a short personal statement stating why they wish to stand for election. These statements will be circulated to parents / carers with the ballot papers. Each person will also need to sign the declaration of eligibility form, as we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The nomination and declaration of eligibility forms are available to download from the school website http://www.shirley.croydon.sch.uk . If you wish to nominate someone else, please check they are willing to be a School Governor. The completed forms must be returned to the school either clearly marked for the attention of the Clerk to Governors or by email to: morgans@shirley.croydon.sch.uk

The closing date for nominations is 12.00 noon on Wednesday 21 April 2021. If there is more than one nomination, a ballot will be held.

Mrs L Morgans - Clerk to Governors

#### NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

We were so excited to celebrate National Careers Week! At SHS, we focussed on careers for the whole month of March. Students completed virtual work experience and explore the fantastic resources, information and opportunities on our careers Padlet.

There's plenty of information for parents / carers there too!

Check it out here:

https://padlet.com/vfair1/3momculkuliek233

#weareaspirational #weareshirley

Miss G Fair - Head of Sixth Form



#### WELCOME COOKIES!

Thank you to our amazing Mrs Frost and her catering team who delivered a little treat to Year 5 & 6 students in recognition of all their hard work with remote learning. We look forward to welcoming you to Shirley High School in the near future for a visit to see the wonderful things happening here. We were delighted to receive a beautiful handmade card to say thank you for the cookies as shown below from students at Fairchilds Primary School.

#### T Myton - Principal

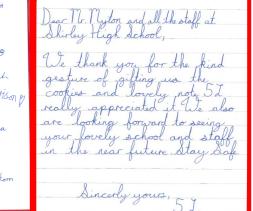








about my dietary ack was anazing! Thank you for thinking requirements. And the flaty Procle Maya Frace Chinedo Sumaya ms Lindo do Bodieg Seya Ashariat Luke Kian Hartisonp Ο wer <sup>~~</sup>~, .σ<sup>α</sup> Elane Olivra Staple Christian ... Nathan Les Harrey Markesio







#### **STATIONERY GIFT PACKS**

Battling against the elements, Mrs Frost and other members of SHS hand delivered stationery packs and refreshments to a few Year 7-10 students during Lockdown to make it easier to complete home-learning tasks.

#### T Myton - Principal







#### SPRING NEWS FROM THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

It has been a strange time for us all, normally we would be sharing photos from our Year 11, 12 and 13 field trips but these have had to be cancelled this year, although the Year 11 have been amazing on the remote learning and we did a virtual field trip: not quite the same but at least we were guaranteed not to be rained on!

We have been so impressed with all our learners and the Year 11s engagement and positive attitude.

At the end of last term, Year 8 made "Biomes in a Box" but sadly Covid interrupted the hand in of these: but I would like to congratulate Olivia Selcuk 8E who brought her Tropical Rainforest in especially to reception! I am sure your will agree a lot of work has gone into this!

Whilst there are many Geography stars, the department (Mr Lewis, Mrs Tune, Mr Asabere and Ms Chenery) have identified some students for extra recognition as we feel that they really embrace what it is to be a Shirley learner and have been total "Lockdown Legends" and really embrace what it is to be a Shirley learner!

#### Some Geography Lockdown Legend SHOUT OUTS to:

**Year 7** Manveer Padde 7S, Tafari Patterson-Richards 7S, Ayobami Odukoya 7H, Thanusikaa Satkunarajah 7H, Dixon Yakalawo 7Y, Robin Yilmaz 7Y, Leila Pretty 7L, Marylyn Yeboah-Kodie 7L, Ella Odlum 7L, Holly Mitchell 7L, Naisharn Gregg-Garraway 7L, Sophia Goss 7L, AJ Parker 7Y, Keilen Pearson 7Y, Zoe Scott- Prasad 7Y.

Year 8 Loui McGrath 8H, Kyle Kerr 8H, Abigail Keen 8E, Ethan Otokito 8E, Sonia Crisan 8L, Tafari Smith 8L, Marvin Rosario Valdez 8S, Lily Mae Murphy 8S, Millie Elvin 8S, Giselle Donneys 8S, Tahria Cunningham-Reid 8S, Andrea Savva 8S, Sheza Ali 8R, Ava Greenway 8R, David Mogere 8R, Adam Flint 8R, Benjamin Ferrara-Forbes 8R, Kyla Ahwieh 8R.

Year 9 Tanzida Haque 9E, Jay Luong 9E, Samuel Silk 9H, Liam Lowe 9H, Preesha Patel 9S, Rose Riches 9S, Michael Douglas 9S, Tomiloba Bakare 9S.

Year 10 Max-Xavier Montgomery 10L, Tolga Akartuna 10Y, Katie Berry 10H, Christopher Kubie 10E, Tye McCarthy 10E, Darren Moses 10R, Amber Odlum 10L, Charlie Sheehan 10E, Ivan Slavov 10R, Havin Sorgucu 10L, Abena Amponsem 10Y, Chloe Flint 10S, Briger Harapaj 10L, Sayful Islam 101H, Annabelle Parker 10Y, Anjanakrishna Rajendraprasad 10S, Alicia Reid 10R, Jasmine Saunders 10E, Lucy Smith 10Y, Amie Stafford 10H, Plamena Traykova 10H, Manny Olika 10L.

**Year 11** Saiveer Singh 11R, Brooke Skinner 11L, Jahlicia Reid 11S, Ian Egbuhuzor 11R, Cameron Bexfield 11VTG, Sathurshan Sripalan 11R.

Year 12 Adam Bridgeland 12H, Jack Danton 12S, Agnes Agyei 12S.

Year 13 John Saunders 13S, Caitlin Neville 13H.

Well done to all of you! There were so many of you!

#### **Geography Challenges!**

The calendar has many Geographical events that occur worldwide every month and some of these are the basis for some upcoming House Competitions!

Look out for house photo completions to celebrate June the "great door month" and to coincide with the easing of lockdowns and our venturing outside! This calendar can be found on the school website!

Mrs G Chenery—Head of Geography

## ; Whet is heppening in Geogrephy? (;







#### **NEWSLETTER GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION!**

On the topic of competitions, here is one open to all:

The first person to identify where this is by emailing at <u>chenery@shirley.croydon.sch.uk</u> will receive a small Geographical prize: So get guessing! Remember to include your child's name and tutor group. Answer will be given in the next newsletter!



We made it count! Shirley as a Census school: As you are aware 2021 is a Census year which takes place every 10 years and Shirley signed up as a census school as this was a great learning opportunity to see Geography in action and why it matters so much to our community. Year 9 have been looking at Population so this was particularly relevant. Other year groups may also have had the opportunity to discuss it, but all our learners would have walked past our banner!

Going Green! We have all been "Googling" like mad recently, so in the Geography department we have changed our ways and gone green! Perhaps consider changing your search engine to "Ecosia" where 80% of the profits go to tree planting! For approximately every 45 searches, a tree will be planted. They have now planted over 100 million tress! Well worth it as reducing  $CO_2$ . If trees aren't your thing, this website takes you to the top 10 search engines which are charitable, so a small change could mean a big difference.

#### https://charity-search-engines.no1reviews.com/comparison-chart.html

gclid=Cj0KCQjwgJv4BRCrARIsAB17JI4EcLWCkAAnUivQxnbBa3urJ\_U6ypsbExCtPg2wUbmOpNDPldfVNWYaAnmBEALw\_wcB

#### Being nosey!

Seeing as we have not been able to go on fieldtrips, Year 13 have been looking at ways to complete their NEA (Non Examined Assessment) and have been true Shirley learners and found creative ways around the issues and the use of traffic cameras / webcams to complete counts and surveys! There are some amazing free webcams pointed at some famous places: this link is to one focused on Mount Etna's crater: https:// www.skylinewebcams.com/en/webcam/italia/sicilia/catania/vulcano-etna-sud.html has been great recently looking at the eruptions: I took these screen shots on the 24 March 2021, one during the day and one at night, so it's worth having a look. It is an active volcano, but some days it is more active than others!



#### 39 Ways to Save the Planet Podcast!

A new BBC Podcast series has been launched and seems perfect for students and teachers wanting to enrich their understanding of environmental challenges and opportunities.

39 Ways to Save the Planet Podcast meets the people behind 39 brilliant ideas to relieve the stress that climate change is exerting on our planet. It is available now on BBC Sounds. Here is the link https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/m000qwt3

#### Thank you and new beginnings

All of the department wish our Year 11 and 13 learners all the best as they move towards the end of their Key Stage learning. Keep going!

#### Mrs G Chenery - Head of Geography







## **Shirley High School**

**House System** 

CREATORS DIRECTORS EDITORS PRODUCERS

Our House Competitions this term moved online due to the National Lockdown and Remote Learning. A special thanks to Miss Hewlett (Acting Head of PE) for organising the Travel to Tokyo challenge which encouraged students, staff and their families to stay active during Lockdown.



#### HOUSE CHALLENGES

Well done to all students who participated in the Spring Term remote house challenges. We received some wonderful entries.

Here are some of our favourites...



Khylian McIlroy 7H

Lily Adams 8Y

Abigail Turner 10E



## **Shirley High School**

**House System** 



A message from Heads of Houses...

Congratulations to all those students who have placed within the top 5 of their year group for house points!

The students who have acquired the most amount of house points within their house across the whole school are:

Creators - Denis-Andrei Miscu 8I - 233 Directors - Danita Walcott Nicholls 9R - 220 Editors - Marylyn Yeboah-Kodie 7L - 215 Producers - Anthea Bianco 9Y - 207

### **Current Art House Competition**



More house competitions and events will be coming your way next term... Remember - "Points mean prizes" Have a lovely Easter Break! Ms Skeete, Ms Samuels, Ms Frimpong, Ms Sarpong

#### LOCKDOWN STATS - SPRING TERM 2021



No of students with 100% behaviour (no behaviour points) = 213

No of students with at least 85% engagement in their lockdown learning = 177

No of students getting a Platinum Certificate for 200 or more House Points = 11 No of students getting a Gold Certificate for 150 or more House Points = 29 No of students getting a Silver Certificate for 100 or more House Points = 94 No of students getting a Bronze Certificate for 50 or more House Points = 388

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL ON THESE FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS! Ms M Francis Senior Vice Principal







#### PASTORAL

#### To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

#### UNIFORM REMINDERS

The standard of uniform on our return after lockdown has been good in the main. It has been a little more difficult with Hewitts being closed and students needing new uniform due to their growth during the lockdown. Please do let the Head of Year know if you have issues with uniform including if there is a delay in online ordering / delivery so we can help with lending the required items in the interim. It is important for our high standards of uniform to be maintained.

It is important however that our students understand that our uniform does not change when they leave through the gates at the end of the day! It is to be worn correctly and with pride for the school they represent until they get home and take it off. This includes jewellery, which is not permitted with our uniform – at any time!

As we approach the Easter break, please remember that any decisions made regarding extreme haircuts, extreme hair colours, piercings and nail extensions, must be rectified in time for the students to be presented according to our uniform rules on the first day of term of the Summer term.

Please be advised, particularly in the case of piercings that, irrespective of the timing of the piercing, students will not be permitted to cover them, but will be asked to remove them at school. Notes from home asking for permission for the piercings to remain in or be covered with plasters etc will not be accepted. I would therefore suggest that this two week break is not an ideal time to get new piercings, unless the student is prepared to remove them for school. The same principle applies for false eyelashes and coloured nail extensions which are not permitted in school, and I ask that you support us with this request to avoid the need for sanctions.



School skirts should be purchased from Hewitts and have either one or two front pleats only – no other style is permitted. There have also been issues with the permitted lengths so to clarify: skirt length should be on or about the knee. School trousers must be grey and be standard fitting school trousers. We do not allow black trousers. All students in Years 7 - 11 should be wearing a blazer.

Students in Years 7 – 10 should be wearing clip on ties only. The tie colours are; Year 7 gold, Year 8 light blue, Year 9 silver, Year 10 red and Year 11 green and they should be worn with our uniform to and from school.

Hair accessories (including headscarves worn for religious reasons only) must be navy, black, grey or white in colour only.

There are no major changes to our school uniform and if any item of school uniform needs replacing please purchase it from Hewitts - our uniform supplier. You can then be sure that the uniform purchased is both suitable and of the correct style for our school.

Please be advised that as from September 2021 our Year 11 students (currently Year 10) will be expected to wear a blazer as per the other Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 year groups.

#### ORGANISATION

Please can parents / carers ensure that all students have a fully stocked pencil case as well as the equipment they need for subjects such as Food Technology, PE, Dance etc.

All students must have a pencil case containing:

Pens (at the very least - 2 x black, 2 x green, 2 x red) Pencil (at the very least - 2 lead pencils) Rubber Pencil sharpener Ruler Glue



It is helpful for students to have a Math's set also as well as a small pair of paper scissors. Students must also have their student planner, a full bottle of water, a reading book and a clean face mask with them every day.

Being equipped and ready for lessons is very important and prevents the disruption of teaching and learning that occurs when a student does not have the right equipment with which to complete the lesson. We want to help get our students back on track with their learning and so disruption to this, caused by lack of equipment, is not acceptable.

Please also can you ensure that you see your child's student planner daily and sign it weekly. The planner is used as a weekly planner/diary as well as to communicate messages between home and school and record rewards and/or sanctions. The planner also contains information to assist our students with literacy, numeracy, learning skills and general information. Please take your time to familiarise yourself with the planner so that it can be used effectively as a source of information and as a means of communication between home and school. Students should have their planner with them every day.



#### Our Vision:

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#### Attendance and Punctuality

I would like to thank parents/carers for their continued support with the attendance / engagement of their children during the lockdown and now on our return. We are pleased and proud of the resilience of our students and the fact that the school attendance / engagement has remained so good. It has been even more important because those students who have attended / engaged throughout, are the students who will have any education gaps closed more quickly. This in turn will set them back onto that path of success we want for each and every one of them. It is very important that going forwards our students continue to attend and engage with their face to face lessons and access remote learning if they need to be absent for Covid related reasons. Attendance at school became mandatory from 8 March 2021.

Please remember the following information currently in our Attendance & Punctuality Addendum:

#### Current legislation, and current guidance from the DfE:

- . Students are to self-isolate if they, or a member of their household, has symptoms or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Students who have symptoms should self-isolate and get a test.
- If a student tests negative and if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating and return to school. If the student remains unwell following the test (such as with a different illness), then they will be recorded as code I – illness in the attendance register, as would usually be the case. Code X will only be used up until the time of the negative test result.
- If a student tests positive, they should continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms. They should only return to school if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste (anosmia). This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. Code X will be used for the period of self-isolation until the test. After the student tests positive they will be recorded as code I (illness) until they are able to return to school.
- If someone in the student's household has symptoms, the household should self-isolate and the member of their household should get a test. If the member of the household tests negative, the student can stop self-isolating and can return to school. Code X will only be used up until the time of the negative test result when the student can return to school. If the household member tests positive, the student should continue self-isolating for the full 10 days from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive. Code X will be used during this period.
- Students may not have symptoms themselves but may be required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone with coronavirus (COVID-19). The NHS test and trace guidance states that a person should self-isolate for 10 days from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19).
- In the event of a confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) case in the school community, advice will be provided on who this applies to, and the need to self-isolate for 10 days from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive. Code X will be used for these students during this period.
- As usual parents / carers should plan their holidays within school breaks and avoid seeking permission to take their children out of school during term time. Families should also consider that their child may need to self-isolate following trips overseas that require a period of quarantine. If a student is required to be in quarantine on arrival in, or return to the UK code X will be used in the register.
- If shielding has been advised nationally or in a local area by DHSC or PHE, then students who are clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school. Non attendance in accordance with guidance from PHE or the DHSC should be recorded as code X. When measures in the local area are lifted and shielding is paused again the expectation is that the student returns to school. Code X should not be used for sessions after the student has been advised to return to school.
- In all cases of self-isolation, parent/carers must inform the school immediately about the outcome of a test. Although we will not insist on evidence of negative test results or other medical evidence before welcoming students back after a period of self-isolation, it can be helpful for the school to have this for their records.

#### **REMOTE EDUCATION:**

If a student is not attending school due to circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19), we will immediately offer them access to remote education.

Students must attend live/remote sessions as they would normally do in respect of onsite lessons, unless there is a valid reason for their absence. We will keep a record of, and monitor engagement with this activity.

#### **RULES RELATING TO MOBILE PHONES**

Mobile phones are not permitted at Shirley High School – there have been no changes to this rule.

They are not permitted on our site and this was made clear to all parents/carers on the admission of their children to the school. With this in mind, we are not responsible for the loss or theft of mobile phones on our premises should students break our rules and bring them into school. Any student found in possession or using a mobile phone on our premises will receive an amber level incident (-3 house points) and have the phone confiscated.

#### SECURITY

We are currently not allowing visitors to the school unless they have been invited in for a scheduled meeting. It is important that if parents are attending for a meeting that they report directly to reception during school opening hours, so they can be signed in and the appropriate checks and sanitising undertaken. Out of hours, visitors must use the entry system either at the school front gate or in Reception so that a member of the site team can meet them and monitor who is on site. Students will challenge or alert school staff; and staff will challenge any unauthorised visitors or non-Shirley students on site and direct them as appropriate to Reception to be signed in.



### Our Vision:

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To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

### At Shirley High School we expect our students to achieve 96%+ attendance during each academic year. (This is the equivalent of 8 days off in the whole year).

We do not authorise any absence during the academic year unless a Student Absence Request Form has been completed and is accompanied by the evidence required e.g. an Order of Service for attendance at a funeral, details of when the flight was booked for unforeseen emergencies requiring overseas travel etc.

## Research suggests that 20 missed school days a year i.e. 10% non-attendance = 1 GCSE grade drop in achievement. This is without the effects of the National Lockdown!

Attendance matters .....

100%	=	no days absence from school (September to July)
95%	=	10 days absence (2 weeks) from school (September to July)
00%	_	20 days absonce (4 weeks) from school (Sontomber to July)

- 90% = 20 days absence (4 weeks) from school (September to July)
- 85% = 30 days absence (6 weeks) from school (September to July)
- 80% = 40 days absence (8 weeks) from school (September to July)

#### At Shirley High School we expect our students to have less than 3% lates in an academic year. (This is the equivalent of 6 late arrivals to school in the whole year.)

Punctuality to school is equally important and we are striving for all students to regularly attend school on time. Arriving to school on time sets our students up well for the day ahead as well as ensuring they access tutor time with their form tutors, which is where a lot of our pastoral work is undertaken. Poor punctuality has a detrimental effect on achievement as well as general organisation. Our whole school punctuality is generally good and we are proud of the way our students have coped with the disruptions to public transport, the fluctuations of the timings and accessibility of the buses as well as adapting their routines to ensure they arrive at school for their staggered starts.

- 5 Minutes late everyday = 3.4 school days missed per year
- 10 Minutes late everyday = 6.9 school days missed a year
- 15 Minutes late everyday = 10.3 school days missed a year
- 20 Minutes late everyday = 13.8 school days missed a year
- 30 Minutes late everyday = 20.7 school days a year

Thank you for supporting your children to attend regularly and on time. Please continue to support us and your child by ensuring their attendance remains above 96% and their punctuality remains less than 3% late, thereby allowing them to achieve their potential.

#### BEHAVIOUR

The majority of our students have maintained the high standards of behaviour expected at Shirley and have conducted themselves appropriately both in and out of school abiding by the new rules and regulations in place for maintaining a low risk Covid environment. The majority have also conducted themselves well during remote learning sessions.

We are committed to promoting a positive attitude towards our Golden Rule; 'Students are expected to show consideration and respect to all members of the school and local community at all times'. We will not tolerate any behaviour that disrupts the teaching and learning of our students or brings the good name of the school into disrepute.

Our students are aware of the Shirley Values and our expectation for them to consider and demonstrate them in their daily actions and behaviour.

We expect our students leaving school at the end of the day to make their way straight home, always respecting the public – pedestrian, motor, neighbours and local businesses. They should not go to the park or the park playground and they are expected to observe social distancing and wear their masks if travelling on public transport.

It is also really important that students use the zebra crossing rather than crossing in front of oncoming vehicles. Please can parents who drop their children off in the morning please park safely on the main road and not obstruct the zebra crossing or our neighbours' driveways. No parents / carers should drive into the school to drop students off unless a special arrangement has been made.

Student behaviour and our school uniform should not and must not change outside of school. We hold the same high expectations of our students in school and out. The reputation of our school is important and affects all of us. Students' behaviour on the way to and from school reflects on all of us. We do not want our students to behave in a way that will embarrass the school and bring the name of our school into disrepute.

Parents / carers' role in this cannot be underestimated and your support in helping us educate our children in regards to their behaviour is really appreciated.

The school's Behaviour Policy Addendum is available for reference on the school website and a copy of the school rules relating to; attendance and punctuality; general behaviour; the safe use of school premises; uniform; and prohibited and banned items is also available in the student planner.

#### Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal

#### FAMILY LIVES

Family Lives is a charity that supports parents / carers and families in England with all aspects of family life. They can be contacted via the helpline, as well as through email, Skype and live chat.

Languages Available: English

Referral Process: Any family member

Age Range: No age range

Waiting List: No waiting list

It is a free service funded by the Local Authority and offers the following:

• Confidential Freephone helpline available Monday – Sunday 7.00 am – Midnight staffed by trained staff / volunteers

- Live chat service
- Email support service
- Information leaflets
- Useful website
- Befriending service
- Parenting groups

Please visit <u>http://www.familyspacecroydon.co.uk</u> for even more information on what is available to support families.

Telephone:	02086552402
Confidential Freephone:	0808 800 2222
Email:	parentsupport@familylives.org.uk
Address:	Tunstall Nursery & Children's Centre
	Tunstall Road
	Croydon
	CR0 6TY
Website:	http://www.familylives.org.uk

#### PARENTING PROGRAMMES AND INFORMATION

A positive parent-child relationship is important for children's social, emotional and mental development. Therefore Croydon Council are pleased to offer a number of parenting courses, covering the different stages of childhood and the unique challenges they can bring. You can chose what courses will suit you and your family best.



Parents or carers who wish to register to

- attend these courses, or find out more should either;
  speak to their local children centre staff
- speak to their Best Start Worker or Social Worker

Read more about what programmes are available and who they are for in the parenting booklet:

#### http://croydonlcsb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/ Parenting\_Booklet-Nov-2017.pdf

Local & National Support Services:

Bromley & Croydon Women's Aid - 020 8313 9303 or info@bcwa.org.uk

Family Justice Centre, Croydon – 020 8688 0100 or fjc@croydon.gov.uk

Victim Support, Croydon - 0845 450 3936 or live chat on website

Youth offending service, Croydon - 020 8404 5800

Croydon Voluntary Action (for London Gang Exit) - 07850 282 499 or LondonGangExitReferral@londoncrc.org.uk

#### **OFF THE RECORD**

Off The Record are a young person centred organisation offering counselling and emotional support. They have recently added a



new online counselling service to Off The Record's other support services (all detailed on the Off The Record website).

Whilst some young people may prefer face to face counselling there also a number of young people who find it difficult to engage with this type of support for a variety of reasons, including school refusers. When you register you will have contact within 48 hours and be starting to work with a counsellor within 5 working days.

The service is text based, via their secure website, so may not be suitable for those who find reading and writing too challenging or don't have access to a laptop or tablet. They believe passionately that the relationship between counsellor and client is central to the counselling that they offer and this is no different in their online service where young people work online with a counsellor in weekly sessions. All of their counsellors are qualified face-to-face counsellors who have undergone additional training to work effectively in the online environment.

Young people can register independently, please use the link on our website.

Family Justice Centre provides help and support for Croydon families suffering from Domestic Advice and Sexual Violence



#### STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

#### Easter Holidays

Holidays can be a particularly difficult time for victims of domestic abuse. Increased time together can increase the pressures within a relationship, however they are not excuses for domestic abuse.

If you are worried about domestic abuse over the holidays:

Family Justice Centre 020 8688 0100 (open every day with the exception of the bank holidays)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247 (free phone line, 24hrs a day)

In an emergency call the police 999

#### LIVE STREAMING OF SEXUAL OFFENDING - CEOPS EDUCATION TEAM BRIEFING

As well as directing you to our new resources on Live Streaming #LiveSkills that can be used to educate children, young people, parents and carers about Live streaming, it was important that we address the behaviour of sharing images and videos of sexual abuse.

For professionals and parents finding out that images and videos of abuse are being circulated by young people and adults on social media, it can be a stressful time and difficult to know what course of action to take immediately. Here are some clear steps to take and important things to remember:

- Please never share a video or image depicting any kind of abuse involving children
- Each time a video or image of abuse is shared it re-victimises the child and increases the likelihood of blackmail, feelings of self-blame and powerlessness
- Report it to the platform it has been shared on e.g. YouTube, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram etc
- Report it to CEOP if it is an image or video of sexual abuse involving a child with a link to where the video or image is hosted e.g. YouTube, Facebook.
- If it's not on a public platform and in only exists on a device i.e. Phone, tablet. Once reported, with authorisation of CEOP or the Police, delete it from the device it has been sent to (if offender usernames are visible make note of them)
- Encourage other people to report if it is being shared publicly.

If you work in a school or college and are concerned about what to do with peer to peer sharing of sexual images or videos you can refer to the 'Sexting in schools and colleges guidance'.

If a parent or carer is worried about a child seeing inappropriate things online, 'Thinkuknow/parents' has more information.

#### NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

There are more children handling digital devices than ever before and despite the happiness and entertainment they can bring, they can pose a number of dangers too. So, how can parents / carers protect their children? Here are our top tips for parents/carers:

#### Buying gifts

Take care when shopping online. Only use secure websites to avoid falling for scams. Before proceeding with an order, spend an extra two minutes to research the security of the product.

#### Security

Help your children to set up their accounts on their new devices and ensure their settings are set to private. Take the time to read the manual and get to grips with security and privacy options. We advise that you set up a 'two-factor authentication' process when logging in to an online service. Some toys and devices are fitted with web cameras – you can turn the remote viewing option off in the device's settings. In addition to this, remove any default location tracking and GPS settings on new devices.

#### Passwords

Some toys and devices have been found to have unencrypted Wi-Fi connections or unsecured Bluetooth connections. If this is the case, add a secure password or a PIN. Ensuring that passwords are secure is fundamental when protecting your children. When creating a password, remember to:

set up unique passwords for new accounts

avoid using easy-to-guess phrases such as 'freddie1'

change passwords and usernames on new devices from default

check your router has a strong password and latest security updates

#### Setting up parental controls

We advise that you set up parental controls for young and vulnerable children to help prevent them from viewing content or engaging in activities that they should not be. Additionally, take interest in your child's online activities. Play with them on their devices and encourage open conversation to help build that trust and confidence that will mean your child can confide in you if they ever feel uncomfortable, troubled, worried or unsafe.

#### Check age restrictions

Games and apps have age restrictions. It is important that you make yourself aware of these age restrictions and WHY they have these restrictions and make the decision whether it is appropriate for your child.

#### Be a role model

It's often the case that children copy the actions of their parents, carers and even siblings, therefore it is important to set good examples and be a positive role model that they can look up to.

#### Set boundaries

If you feel like your child is either spending too much time on their devices or maybe taking part in inappropriate activities, it is not a bad thing to be strict and set boundaries.

#### Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal







## **Student Wellbeing**

THE SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL STAFF ARE HERE FOR YOU – ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK ......

- You will see your Form Tutor every morning. Please let them know if you have any concerns or email your HoY –
   surname@shirley.croydon.sch.uk to let them know.
- Mentoring and counselling have started. If you need support and wish to be referred for either of these two services please let your Head of Year know.
- There is a folder In Google Drive 'Student Wellbeing & Resources'. In there you will find details of support you can access.



- Kooth Online Counselling Service for 11 22 years in Croydon
- We know this will be a strange and difficult time for you. We hope you know that your teachers are here for you if you need to talk but we also wanted to share information about a free online counselling service called Kooth, which the NHS offers for all young people aged 11-22 in Croydon.
- You can search 'Kooth' or visit kooth.com and get support for anything that's on your mind.
- It's a free online chat service that works on your phone or computer. There are no waiting lists and it's totally anonymous – you can just make up a name.
- You can find out more by watching this video at <u>https://vimeo.com/505725535</u>
- There are also urgent helplines you can call 24 hours, 7 days a week: 0800 731 2864 (Option 1)
- Free advice and support are there if you need it.



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Shirley High School is disappointed to have had to curtail their trips offer due to the pandemic. However we are ever hopeful that trips will resume and we can offer our students the opportunity to again participate in residential trips abroad. Trips like these are character building, promote independence and offer fun, adventure and friendships as well as giving the students a learning experience that they can only obtain from being on such a trip. The programme below is what we hope to be able to offer from next year 2022

#### Proposed residential trips abroad for 2022 - 2026:

October half term 2022	-	Disneyland Paris
February half term 2023	-	Ski Europe
Summer holidays 2023	-	Watersports trip to France
October half term 2023	-	Disneyland Paris
Easter holidays 2024	-	Ski America
Summer holidays 2024	-	Watersports trip to France
October half term 2024	-	Disneyland Paris
February half term 2025	-	Ski Europe
Summer holidays 2025	-	Watersports trip to France
October half term 2025	-	Disneyland Paris
Easter holidays 2026	-	Ski America
Summer holidays 2026	-	Watersports trip to France
October half term 2026	-	Disneyland Paris

#### If you are interested in any of these trips or require any further details please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms. Francis, Senior Vice Principal: <u>francis@shirley.croydon.sch.uk</u> (Ski America, Watersports trip to France) Mr Rayner, Associate Vice Principal: <u>rayner@shirley.croydon.sch.uk</u> (Ski Europe) Miss Pepperrell, Head of Inclusion & Student Support: <u>pepperrell@shirley.croydon.sch.uk</u> (Disneyland Paris)



# SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL



# SAFE HAPPY SUCCESSFUL