SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

"Striving for Excellence"

arts colleges

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.



AUTUMN 2021 NEWSLETTER

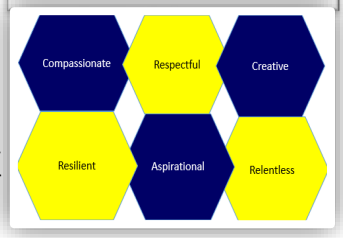
Dear Parent / Carer & Students



Welcome to the end of the Autumn term. It has been wonderful to have all Year groups back and working to a more "normal" timetable and educational experience since September. Students and staff have shown their excellent commitment to learning and maintaining an environment that promotes the core values of our school.

Even working under measured COVID restrictions we have achieved so much this term and it has been a pleasure to see so many of our students embrace the fantastic opportunities that are on offer at Shirley High School. This term we have been able to run the following events:

- Inter School events
- The amazing school production of Memphis
- Several sporting events and fixtures
- Culturally enhancing residential trips for Year 7 and 11
- Breath-taking Performing Arts performances
- Open Morning, Days and Evenings
- Certificate events
- Charity events raising money for Mental Health and local charities
- External workshops on revision and managing anxiety



The list could go on and on…….

We can't wait to return in 2022 and are already planning some fantastic events that will help improve our students academically, socially and culturally. It remains a wonderful and exciting time to be part of our Shirley High School journey.

As is common at this time of year we have to sadly say goodbye to some members of staff. I would like to say thank you and good luck to Ms Fair (Assistant Principal) who is leaving us to join a school closer to her home and to Mrs Tune (Head of Year 9) who is joining a smaller faith school. Both have been fantastic teachers, and their new schools will gain from their experience of working at Shirley High. Good luck to both of you.

As I write this message the familiar noises we have heard over the past 18 months are starting again regarding COVID cases, restrictions and government plans. What we have done, and what we will continue to do during this time is focus on the role a school plays in the present and future life chances of our students. We have robust Health and Safety plans and will take all the precautions necessary to protect both the well-being of students and staff and the educational potential of all our students.

I am tremendously proud to be the Principal of Shirley High School and even more proud of all our students and staff. I wish you all a healthy and happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you safe and well in 2022.

T Myton - Principal

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:

Tuesday 4 January 2022 - School Closed Staff Training Day (no students in school)
Wednesday 5 January 2022 – School Opens for Spring Term for LFT testing only
Thursday 6 January 2021 - Return for all students
Monday 10 January 2022- 14 January 2022 - Year 13 1:1 Meetings
Monday 10 January 2022 - Sixth Form Interviews
Monday 31 January 2022 - Friday 11 February 2022 - Year 10 Mid-Exams
Tuesday 1 February 2022 - Year 12&13 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 2 February 2022 - Elevate / Exam Conference
Monday 7 February 2022 - Year 11 Parents / Revision Evening
Monday 14 February 2022 - Friday 18 February 2022 - Half Term School Closed (1 week)
Monday 21 February 2022 - Friday 4 March 2022 Year 11 PPE 4
Monday 21 February 2022 - Year 7 Assessment Window Deadline
Monday 21 February 2022 - Year 8 Assessment Window Deadline
Monday 21 February 2022 - Year 9 Assessment Window Deadline
Monday 7 March 2022 - Friday 18 March 2022 - Year 13 PPEs
Monday 7 March 2022 - Friday 18 March 2022 - Year 12 PPE 2
Monday 7 March 2022 - Friday 18 March 2022 - Year 13 Written Reports available on Sims App
Thursday 17 March 2022 - Year 10 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 29 March 2022 - Year 8 Parents Evening
Monday 4 April 2022 - School Closed for Easter Holidays



Artwork by Claire Wabara 10E

Commendations



BOOK OF EXCELLENCE

The following students have been recognised for their outstanding work in particular subjects. Their names have been entered in the School's Book of Excellence…….

Zachary Arthur 9TSH ……...Act of Kindness
Amarnie Sinclair 9I……..Act of Kindness
Claire Wabara 10E……...Christmas Card Design

Well done to all the above mentioned students!
T Myton - Principal

PERFORMING ARTS
Song Contest - Thursday 18 November 2021

The show kicked off with a brilliant guest performance by Hailey Witikeni 12H. This was a special night for Hailey as she won the song contest back in 2017 when she was in Year 8! Hailey has gone on to perform at many school events and has now started her singing career performing at venues locally. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

We then introduced our judges and along with a packed crowd of 80 guests including some staff and students Na'Ari Sanders 7R started the show singing a Whitney Houston song "*I Have Nothing*". It is always difficult being first on but she did a fantastic job!

The other first half performances were: Kimani Davidson-Dacres 8R, Chantel Powell 8S, Ashina Kabahoza 9E and Maya Lawrence 9E, Olivia Powell 8R, Bright Fadeyi 7R, Rahzia Boreland-Bryan 7R, Zuzanna Kipczak 8S and Shai-Nefer Page 7R. They performed brilliantly and the audience were gushing with praise during the interval.

For the second half we focused on Year 10 students. The performers were: Anthea Bianco 10Y, Julia Bryk 10Y, Ola Oshodi 10E, Francesca Henry 10R, Nickolas Zanetta 10E and Joseph Cope 10L.

It was then the difficult task of judging the winners. While the adjudication process was going on, we were treated to an amazing performance by our renowned Gospel Choir.

And finally the winners were……..

Years 7-9
1st place: Bright Fadeyi 7R.
2nd Place: Melissa Sclafani 9Y
3rd place was tied between Kimani Dacres 8R and Shai-Nefer Page 7R

Big congratulations to all our winners. They all received a Certificate and Bright also received £20 worth of Amazon vouchers.

Year 10
1st place: Ola Oshodi 10E. Ola performed a brilliant piano piece "*Cry Baby*". He also received a certificate and £20 worth of Amazon vouchers.

Once again, the students at Shirley High School put on an amazing show that will live on in the memory of those there that night. We thank them all for their efforts.

S Sahl-Taylor - Director of Performing & Creative Arts

LODGE HILL TRIP

From Friday 26 November to Sunday 28 November 2021, Year 9 & 10 Dance and Drama students went on a residential trip to Lodge Hill Centre in West Sussex. Students had a jam-packed weekend filled with; a physical theatre workshop that explored their dance and drama skills, a movie night, morning walks in nature, a campfire night, orienteering and archery.

All students that attended had a great time and the Lodge Hill Centre staff were very complimentary of our students. A special mention goes to the following students who were exemplary in their conduct throughout the entire trip:

Ashinah Kabahoza 9E - Zhane Smith-Williams 9E - Mali Ashiboye 10H - Lillie Andrews-Wilson 10H - Isaac Obafemi-Wilcox 10Y - Melissa Sclafani 9Y - Danita Walcott Nicholls 10R - Francesca Henry 10R - Maya Lawrence 9E - Ashaani Samson 9E



Miss J Skeete - Teacher i/c of Drama







YEAR 7 NATURE TRIP TO TRULEIGH HILL

On Thursday 7 October 2021, Year 7 students enjoyed an exciting day trip to Truleigh Hill. Students explored the beautiful South Downs near Shoreham-On-Sea where they got the chance to get closer to nature with some nature-inspired art work and by building some micro-habitats for the wildlife & insects in the woodland.

J Rayner - Assistant Associate Principal / Trip Organiser















YEAR 11 HPA ACTIVITY WEEKEND

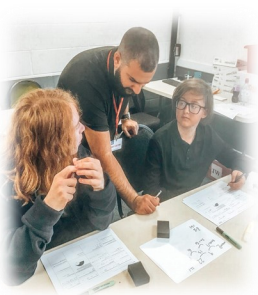
Students took part in an HPA activity weekend on Friday 8 October until Sunday 10 October 2021. This weekend course consisted of a study skills seminar delivered by Elevate Education, subject specific sessions and outdoor and adventurous activities delivered by qualified instructors from PGL. These sessions focussed on developing key skills such as team building, self-esteem and communication. Daytime Activities included High Swing, Aeroball, Science Masterclass, an Elevate Education Study Sensei Session, Zip-Lining, Raft-building and a Maths & English Revision Masterclass.

S Hurst - Assistant Principal / Trip Organiser











REMEMBRANCE DAY



Staff, Governors, Students and Guests assembled on Thursday 11 November 2021 and held a two minute silence for our Remembrance Day Service. On behalf of the Armed Forces, Cadets marched through the car park and stood at ease in front of the flag poles where wreaths were laid.

I am so proud of our students who behaved with the utmost respect in total silence. Lest we forget.

T Myton - Principal









Flu Vaccination Clinics

The Croydon Immunisation Team is holding clinics after school for children in Reception to Academic Year 11 offering the flu vaccination. Please ensure you have submitted a consent form via the link below prior to your child's appointment:

https://croydonhc-vaccination.verseonecloud.com/nasal-flu-vaccination-2

School holiday clinics

Day	Time	Location	How to book
Monday 20th December	10:00-16:00	Parkway Health Centre New Addington CR0 0JA	**Appointment only** Please call the Team on 0208 274 6453 to book an appointment
Tuesday 21st December	10:00-16:00	12- 18 Lennard Road Croydon CR9 2RS	
Wednesday 22nd December	10:00-16:00	12- 18 Lennard Road Croydon CR9 2RS	

The children's flu vaccine is safe and effective. It's offered every year as a nasal spray or injectable vaccine to children to help protect them against flu. It can be a very unpleasant illness for children. It can also lead to serious problems, such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

Children spread flu easily. Vaccinating them also protects others who are vulnerable to flu, such as babies and older people.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS / CARERS

Please can you remind your children that they are not to sit on residents' walls while waiting for the bus or their friends, they are also not to congregate on the driveways / gardens in their properties. This is around the residents houses on Upper Shirley Road.

The other area students must be more considerate is Sandpits Road entered from the Sandrock path on the way from school and via the Londis on the way to school. The majority of the residents have door cameras but so far have placed their trust in us to remind our students of the expectations rather than go to the police to report anti social incidents. Students must travel sensibly and respectfully along that road and certainly not touch cars, go into gardens, touch their bins etc. We are the only school that uses that road so they know it will be us if issues arise. Our values of being respectful and compassionate should be emphasised please.

SAFEGUARDING

Would all parents / carers please sign in at Reception if entering the school building for any reason, at any time of day, even before or after school. This is for security and safety reasons. Also a reminder, please, do **NOT** drop students off by car **inside** the school grounds or **outside** the school at the gates as this causes congestion and is also a hazard to students and other road users.

Due to congestion, please do not use the staff car park.

Thank you for your help with these issues.

T Myton - Principal

ROYAL RUSSELL INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE



On Saturday 16 October 2021 to Tuesday 19 October 2021, Gwennie Sowrey-Lewin 13I and Micaiah Taylor 13I became judges on the International Court of Justice representing Colombia and New Zealand at The Royal Russell School.

The aim of the event was to give students an insight into how the United Nations and International Court of Justice operates by replicating the protocol and procedures of the real thing. It was a brilliant opportunity for students to broaden their horizons, build confidence and resilience and to step out of their comfort zones.

Nearly 200 students from over 20 different schools, including some international schools, took part. Whilst Gwennie and Micaiah were initially quite awed by the unfamiliar surroundings, they rose to the challenge and even took the opportunity to make speeches and ask questions in the General Assembly!

N O'Gorman - Drama Teacher/ Post 16 Learning Mentor

My name is Gwen Sowrey-Lewin, and I am a member of the Year 13 Debate Club. Originally, our group would meet once a week to discuss topics such as animal testing, however, Mr O'Gorman managed to secure a place at the Royal Russell Model United Nations. This four day event consisted of ten of us being split into separate committees within the school, including Environment and International Security. Here many topics were discussed and a 'fruitful debate' commenced.

I was representing New Zealand as part of the Disarmament and International Security Committee, and entering the room, I was very nervous. With no one else in attendance from Shirley, I realised that I had to talk to other students I had never met. As we were one of only a handful of state schools attending, I was scared we might not 'fit in'. However, this was certainly not the case. Two days in and I was spending lunch with five other people I had only just met, discussing the previous debates we had just experienced!

Being in the Committee meetings themselves was so interesting, hearing about the militarisation of the South China Seas and the Iran Nuclear Deal, I learnt so much new information. As this was my first MUN, I wasn't brave enough to speak for the first couple of days, so I just sat and observed voting for what New Zealand believed.

Despite being nervous, I eventually spoke. On the final day, we sat on the floor with all other committees and the 'Security Council' and were allowed to ask questions after speeches. I was lucky enough to ask the very final question in the entire event! It was such an interesting weekend and I hope I can experience something like it again.

By Gwennie Sowrey-Lewin 13I

Model United Nations

As part of a group of 8 students, I attended the Royal Russell International Model United Nations representing Columbia. During the 4 days in attendance, I participated in the International Court of Justice among other things and I found the experience rather unexpected. I generally dislike being the centre of attention and these activities required exactly that! Despite my inhibitions, I rose to the challenge and even though it was a rocky start, I quickly learned the nuances of the ICJ and became particularly proficient in it in my opinion!

The International Court of Justice is a simulation of the real ICJ within the UN, this means that every case taken by this simulation (in our case Guatemala v Belize) is a pending case within the real ICJ. This helps to keep the programme as realistic as possible so that we can get the most authentic experience.

I am so pleased that I participated within this year's MUN because not only is it incredibly favourable to have on my application, it is the experience that was equally incredible! Being able to connect with so many different people from all over the world was amazing and to watch them all in action during General Assembly (the main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations) was arguably one of the highlights of the four days I spent there.

By Micaiah Taylor 13I

Royal Russell
MODEL UNITED NATIONS





ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Courtney Senyungule 9Y who participated in the Youth London Games on Saturday 19 December 2021. She represented Croydon Borough in Netball and they were 6th in the Tournament. Well done!

T Myton - Principal



REACHING HIGHER

It was great to see so many Year 12 students attending mentor training with @reachinghigheruk. Referrals can be made through the Head of Year for students in Years 7 & 8.

Mrs C Kelly - Sixth Form Administrator





STEM CLUB

Well done to the first group of students to attend our brand new STEM Club, they had an amazing time dissecting chicken feet and completing the skittles diffusion practical, we can't wait to see more of you there next time!

Mrs J Sharp-Higgins -Teacher of Science







HELLO YELLOW DAY

@YoungMindsUk is a charity organisation across many Social Media platforms, including Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Their aim is to help young people, mainly from the UK, but also across the world, with their mental health. They aspire to raise awareness about mental health, letting all young people who are struggling with their mental health, or suffering with mental illnesses, know that they are not alone.

Every year @YoungMindsUK organises a day called "HelloYellow" where people wear yellow, donate £2, and post a picture of themselves wearing yellow on social media. As yellow is a colour that stands out, this is designed to clearly show young people how many people across the UK support such a cause.

Last year @YoungMindsUk managed to raise £372,628 with 5575 schools taking part (92% of those surveyed saying #HelloYellow had a positive impact), this year they raised £87,929 and an amazing £544.53 was raised from Shirley High School alone! It was a great day and many students wore yellow.

The school showed a tremendous amount of support that all young people were grateful to see. Hopefully this is an event that will take place again to continue reminding young people that they will never be alone, especially in their fight against their own mind.

By Emily Fillon-Payoux 12H

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING

On Tuesday 19 October 2021, students wore yellow to support Young Minds and our school charities. Mental Health and Well-being is one of our school priorities, so we are proud support this fantastic cause. Thank you to Emily Fillon-Payoux 12H and friends for organising and to all who participated and donated.

Miss G Fair - Associate Principal







#HelloYellow

YOUNGMiNDS

SIXTH FORM - OPEN EVENING

During our Sixth Form Open Evening this year, we were delighted to be able to invite Year 11 students from both Shirley and across the London Boroughs to come and see our Sixth Form in person. Applicants were able to speak to our current students and subject teachers in order to make an informed choice on a Post 16 pathway and gain an insight into our supportive and inspirational Sixth Form.

Our Course Guide for 2022 was launched at the same time, as well as an online application form. Applicants can apply online and will be invited to a meeting to discuss course choice and pathways at the end of January.

The Sixth Form at Shirley High School provides high quality Post 16 education (Sixth Form teachers are experts in their fields) which enables students to reach the best possible standards of achievement in both academic and personal development.

High expectations, strong teaching, individual support and excellent relationships are key features of our Sixth Form.
In 2019 Ofsted said:

'Progress in the Sixth Form has exceeded national rates of progress for several years and this continues. This means that students leave with good grades, which enable them to secure places at sought-after universities and employers'.

With this in mind, many of our Year 13 have just completed their UCAS application forms and are aiming to attend Russell Group Universities. We have a great deal to offer at Post 16 education here at Shirley High - discover the benefits of a personalised education at an award winning Sixth Form with strong results in both A level and BTEC courses.

A purpose built Sixth Form block, provision at Post 16 offers an extensive range of A levels alongside established BTEC level three courses and a level 2 course in Health and Social Care. As a Centre for Excellence for the Arts, we offer first rate Performing Arts facilities.

Our reputation as a first class Sixth Form has seen applications rise, however, our intention is always to keep the learning experience at Post 16 personalised and supportive.

If you would like to be part of this growing success, please see our course guide and application form on the school website.

Mrs C Kelly - Sixth Form Administrator



APPLY NOW!

www.shirley.croydon.sch.uk

SIXTH FORM NEWS





We've had a positive start to the academic year with Year 13 continuing to show dedication to their individual studies as well as being a positive role model to younger year groups and taking on roles of responsibility. The largest ever cohort of Year 12s have entered into the Sixth Form with enthusiasm; supporting younger year groups through the Sixth Form mentoring programme. A programme which has been set up, coordinated and managed by students and provides encouragement and support from the older to the younger students. Thank you to our Sixth Form School's Senior Prefects for all your contributions not just with this initiative but for each of your roles of responsibility.

Since September, subject ambassadors volunteered from Year 13 aimed at providing subject specific support to Year 12 students. Feedback from their initial meeting was positive with Year 12 students feeling they benefited from talking to the Year 13s about subject specific concerns. Moving forward, we aim to develop this process and continue to develop relationships between students studying the same subjects in different year groups with meetings based around retrieval of subject content held termly throughout the year.

Key skills; such as numeracy, literacy and students developing their ability to talk and present in front of small groups of people. This is something we aim all our students to gain confidence in and take forward into their next steps, whether it be onto a university, apprenticeship or work. Our Form Tutors work hard each morning organising activities and discussions based around these life skills and I am pleased to see students taking part and understanding their importance. Sharing an opinion in a formal setting and in front of your peers can for some be a daunting task and it is great to see so many of our students developing their ability to put their points across while accepting other people's views and responding.

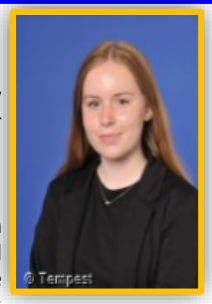
Learning Journals is another initiative set up for students to show their ability to work independently and carry out independent research into their subject areas they find particularly interesting. This may be in order to aid their revision or to develop their knowledge further and broaden their academic horizons outside of exam specifications. This independent enthusiasm and thirst for knowledge along with their exam results will be what makes then shine in applications and interviews when moving forward into life after Shirley and I hope they take advantage of the House Points being offered to students showing this enthusiasm throughout the year. With Year 13s currently working towards the UCAS deadline for university application on 26 January 2022, it is important students can stand out of the crowd and show confidence both in their written communication and interpersonal skills.

Our Christmas meal was again a lovely evening and it was good to see so many of our students out and socialising with both staff and other students within the Sixth Form. Students were a credit to both the school and themselves and was an enjoyable evening for all.

T Lewis - Head of Sixth Form

A few words from our Sixth Form students about why they chose Shirley High Sixth Form and about life in the Sixth Form

School Head Prefect



My name Is Gwen Sowrey-Lewin and I am the School Head Prefect at Shirley High. I have enjoyed every single year here, but none more than Year 12 and I am enjoying Year 13 just as much.

With the constant support from teachers, small classes for lessons and interventions at weekends, we are confident in our ability in the subjects we have chosen.

I study Maths, English Language and Drama. Each one is as enjoyable as the other and the small class sizes - with the smallest being just two students! Therefore teachers can tailor classes for student's specific needs. As well as amazing academic support, the opportunities given at Shirley High are endless.

Recently, I went with the Year 13 Debate Club to Royal Russell for the Model United Nations. We met many new people and learnt so much. University application processes have also been supported by many teachers in our year through helping writing personal statements and finding universities best fit for us.

The amount of freedom given whilst in the Sixth Form is also what makes it so amazing. We have so much supervised independent study to revise what we need to. Shirley is an enjoyable place to be, in lessons and out. I really hope you decide to join us.

Gwennie Sowrey-Lewin 13I

Deputy School Head Prefect



My name is Daniel and I am a Year 13 student studying Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. I chose to do these subjects as I have always been intrigued by Science its practical nuance in everyday life.

Furthermore, studying medicine has always been a dream of mine and I look forward to making that happen next year - God willing. Furthering my studies at Shirley was a no-brainer.

With the progress I made in Year 11 alone - especially in Science, I could only fathom what my studies at A-Levels could entail. I knew that the dedication and interest from the teachers towards my learning would only grow as the classes got smaller and would intrinsically benefit me more than anywhere else would (as the teachers here knew me on a personal level).

Currently at Shirley, we have an enrichment programme in which I have signed up for both: futsal (indoor football) and boxing classes. I find these a great help to me as they help me to both relax and zone out from my curricular subjects. I finally found out in Sixth Form that Shirley is truly my second home.

From my conventional subjects, to interventions arranged by teachers, to my independent study - in and out of school hours - I spend a considerable amount of time at Shirley. I strongly believe that with this in mind, an environment of comfortability, stability, and patience is needed for any student to thrive.

These are some of the things that Shirley have to offer; and this is why I chose Shirley.

Daniel Mogere 13I

PE NEWS

SHIRLEY HIGH NETBALL CLUB



Hello, my name is Courtney and this is my experience with Netball. Shirley High Netball Club is more of a community because it brings people closer together just by playing. I think it is kind of fascinating in a way! I joined the team in Year 7 and I was anxious about joining because I wasn't too sure if I had anyone to talk to, however, everyone was very friendly and open about making friends. Playing Netball also helps us to connect with other people and have a fun time while playing. I feel like playing Netball just eases my worries and makes me feel less pressured about other things that are going on! If I am having a bad day and play Netball with friends then I feel so much happier. I feel like more people should come to Netball Club because it creates a type of safe and friendly environment.

What makes Netball exciting for me are the matches. I am so excited when playing different teams where I can show off my different skills and find out where I need to improve. The first match was a fantastic result against Coloma where we won 16-2! I was the Captain of the Match that day and had the responsibility of leading my teams and saying three cheers at the end of the match. It was also the day I was awarded Player of the Match by the opposition team. We have participated in two more matches with Quest and Woodcote where we beat Quest 17-1 and drew with Woodcote 6-6. This was by far the hardest match we played. We needed to be really good in defence. I am confident that we will defeat them in the tournament!

To conclude, even in a short period of time of coming back to Netball I have had such a fun experience. Don't forget training sessions are every Monday from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm - why not come and join the fun?

By Courtney Senyungule 9Y

Opposition	Date/ Home or Away	Result	POM
Tenison's A			
Woodcote	4th November HOME	Draw 6-6	Emily Cozma
Coloma	3rd November HOME	Won 16-2	Courtney S
Riddlesdown			
Quest	24th November AWAY	Won 17-1	Zoe Cozma
Tournament	24th March HOME		

SHS BOXING CLUB



I decided during the first term that I wanted to join a Sports Club and my decision narrowed down to two clubs with Boxing being one. I eventually chose Boxing as I had never tried it before. Boxing is not all about throwing punches, it benefits many things such as; stamina, fitness, resilience, focus and confidence. Boxing motivates and sets a drive to succeed and reach goals in other topics.

For me, every time I go to Boxing, I come back calmer and happier than I did when I arrived. It is very stress relieving. I started attending during the first term in September and I have not stopped! During the time I have been there, I have found that you rely on people there and they rely on you. You become part of a team.

The truth is, I would not have known if I enjoyed the sport had I not tried it. So give it a go, you may well love it!

By Eleanor Avery 7H

YEAR 12 v YEAR 13 CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH - SEPTEMBER 2021

It was early September and we were adjusting to Year 13 with the new Year 12's now part of the Sixth Form. With my role as Head Student, I coordinated with the PE department to organise a football match as an icebreaker while simultaneously raising money for charity. Details were swiftly finalised and posters went out to forms with a £1 entry fee towards the WWF (World Wildlife Fund) charity.



A week later on 15 September at 3.30 pm, the Year 13 Football Team went head to head with the new Year 12 Team on the main field 5-1. The sound of the final whistle rang out not much longer after 5.00 pm to much availed celebrations from the Year 13's!

Despite this, the real winners on the day were the supporters who congregated by the side-lines contributing to an impressive total of £50! This experience proved to be very rewarding and therefore by very popular demand, I will be looking to organise another match in the Spring (and maybe even involve some of the staff in the Summer)!

By Daniel Mogere 13I

SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE CAREERS YOU SEE HERE PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF THE PE DEPARTMENT OR CHECK OUT THE DISPLAYS AROUND SCHOOL

CAREERS IN SPORT

What is a PE Teacher?

Physical Education Teachers, commonly known as PE teachers, are responsible for the planning and delivery of PE lessons to students in an educational setting. They provide an environment and opportunities for children to develop physically as well as socially, morally and culturally through a wide range of physical activities and sports. Secondary trained PE Teachers can also deliver GCSE PE, A level PE, BTEC Sport courses and other practical and theory lessons and exam preparation.

What qualifications do I need to become a PE Teacher?

Potential PE teachers normally need to complete Initial Teacher Training (ITT) and then go on to gain Qualified Teacher Status before they can begin work in schools in England.

This can be gained in a number of ways: The Department of Education will tell you that you can complete your ITT alongside a degree, straight after a degree, as a part-time course alongside work, or as a full-time course, including employment-based routes. The option that is right for you will depend on your circumstances. For more info about how to gain QTS please visit the Department of Education and the National College for Teaching & Leadership

Some Universities offer specific courses for those looking to train as Primary and Secondary level PE Teachers, these are typically three or four years long and offer opportunities for teaching experience along the way. More frequently, sports and PE graduates are able to complete an additional year long PE PGCE course to gain QTS and become NQTs. Graduates can also join graduate teacher programmes. These provide on the job training and experience. .

Visit The Department of Education's – Get into Teaching website for ALL the various routes in to teaching and gaining QTS – Qualified Teacher Status.





PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE





Personal trainer

Personal trainers work with clients to improve their health and fitness.

Average salary (a year)

£14,000 – £22,000

Starter – Experienced

Typical hours (a week)

32 to 34

variable

You could work

evenings / weekends / bank holidays

as customers demand

How to become

Explore the different ways to get into this role.

You can get into this job through:

- a college course
- an apprenticeship
- applying directly

College

You could take a college course to help you get into this career. Courses include:

- Level 2 Diploma in Instructing Exercise and Fitness
- Level 2 Certificate in Fitness Instructing
- Level 3 Certificate in Personal Training

Entry requirements

You'll need:

- 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course

What you'll do

Discover the day to day tasks you'll do in this role.

Day-to-day tasks

On a daily basis you might:

- help clients set short-term and long-term fitness goals
- plan a fitness programme to help clients achieve their goals
- teach, motivate and coach clients in how to follow their programmes safely and effectively
- give advice on health, nutrition and lifestyle changes
- help clients with their workouts
- check and record clients' progress, using methods like measuring heart rate and levels of body fat
- promote your services and do business admin tasks if you are self-employed

Working environment

You could work at a fitness centre or at a client's home.

Your working environment may be outdoors some of the time.

CAREERS IN SPORT

THE SHS PE DEPARTMENT OFFERS A NUMBER OF ROUTES INTO THESE CAREERS SUCH AS THE PE GCSE & CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL COURSES IN YEAR 10/11 OR THE A-LEVEL & CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL COURSES IN YEAR 12/13.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PE NEWS

On Monday 15 November 2021, we participated in a Golf Workshop which developed our coaching and leadership skills. The session lasted 3 hours, which was brought to us by Alex McGregor on behalf of Golf England. During the workshop, we learned how to hit a golf ball and how to coach each other, developing our confidence, communication, leadership and many of our coaching characteristics such as being a motivator, planner and facilitator. We demonstrated many styles of coaching from democratic to autocratic. Playing a range of games we enjoyed, we identified how to improve and adapt depending on who we are coaching. Receiving our 1st Coach's Activator Certificate at the end of the course made the amazing experience even better. We were lucky to have participated in a second workshop on Monday 29 November 2021 at Addington Golf Course where we developed key skills further.

By Henzo Coimbra 12S and Ayaz Haamid 12S

During this Autumn term, the Year 10 Netball Team had 2 Netball matches. The first match was against Coloma where we lost 11-2. Even though we lost, we went back to training and improved on defending, the Player of the Match was Danita Walcott-Nicholls 10R. For our second match we played against Woodcote where we also lost 6-1 despite the score, our defence was most certainly the strongest! The Player of the Match was Lillie Andrews-Wilson 10H. In both matches, our opponents were very good, but this will help us improve for our next match. We have 3 more matches and a tournament with our next match is against Riddlesdown.

By Lillie Andrews-Wilson 10H





MEMPHIS THE MUSICAL

On Wednesday 8 December to Friday 10 December 2021, members of the Shirley High Theatre Company performed to an audience, Memphis the Musical School edition. Memphis the Musical is based on a Concept by George W. George, with book and lyrics by Joe Dipietro and music and lyrics by David Bryan. Here is a note from the director of the show - Miss J Skeete.

"We originally started rehearsing the show back in September 2019, but when Covid hit in 2020, rehearsals grinded to a halt and we were uncertain whether we would ever be able to put this show in front of an audience… Thankfully we were able to and after auditioning for a new cast and 5 months of rehearsals, it was with great pleasure that we presented to you Memphis the Musical!

I am so pleased that we are able to put on a show that delivered several important messages, but also sought to provide a moment of escape after what has, and still is, a trying time for us all. I am incredibly proud of the cast and crew who have worked tirelessly over the last 5 months. Thank you to my colleagues listed below who have worked alongside me to bring this amazing show together.

In the words of Huey Calhoun, "Hockadoo!"

Miss Skeete would like to extend a special thanks to the following members of staff who went above and beyond to help make this show a success:

- Miss Hood (Teacher i/c Dance) for her wonderful choreography and set design, and for being my right hand woman throughout the process.
- Mr Reid (ICT Technician) and Mr Saunders (Music) for their wonderful vocal coaching - the students sang beautifully in every show.
- Mr O'Gorman (Drama) and Miss Combey (Science Technician) for their backstage support, including sourcing items of set and props, and ensuring the smooth running of the show each night.
- Mrs Manson (Governor) for helping to source costumes, and altering and washing costumes.

Lastly, Miss Skeete and the rest of the Performing Arts team would like to congratulate the company members on three fantastic show nights, from those performing on stage, to those supporting off stage and behind the scenes. You have all been amazing. Thank you to all the parents, carers, staff and governors who were in attendance across the show nights - your support is greatly appreciated. See you again next year!

Miss J Skeete - Teacher i/c Drama / Head of House






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.

PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2022!

Scholarship members will be entitled to:
Free theatre trips here and abroad
One year free membership of Stagecoach
One year Lamda/Dance/Singing or Instrumental lessons
Free equipment and training resources
Top class career advice and professional opportunities!

The Performing Arts department uniquely offers students at Shirley High School the chance to develop their confidence, creative ability and their skills, both as individual subjects and as a part of jointly presented activities, inside and outside of school.







Please check our website for further details on the application process - www.shirley.croydon.sch.uk

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.

PERFORMING ARTS

Mr S Sahl-Taylor Head of Performing Arts / Music Specialist

Mr Sahl-Taylor our Head of Performing Arts trained as a singer & musician and spent 25 years as a professional musician. He toured throughout Europe including residencies in Spain, Croatia, Denmark & Sweden. He has written & recorded his own album which was signed by ACM Records in New York. His album is on iTunes and Spotify. In 2017, one his music students Rai-Elle Williams appeared on X Factor reaching the semi-finals of the live show. His Gospel Choir appeared on the show as Rai-Elle's backup singers. She now has a successful singing career.

Miss J Skeete Teacher in charge of Drama

Miss Skeete is our teacher in Charge of Drama. She trained in musical theatre, attended a stage school as a teenager this allowed her to fall in love with the Performing Arts and she had the opportunity to perform in a number of West End venues. From a young age, she enjoyed performing and would often choreograph dance routines for her peers at Primary School and would write songs that she kept in her diary. A personal highlight was singing a rendition of Beyoncé's "Crazy in Love" with a live orchestra. Prior to teaching, a professional highlight of hers has been singing backing vocals in a Funk Soul band and being Scary Spice in a Spice Girls Tribute Band. Outside of teaching she is writing a musical which she hopes to be able to put on stage one day.

Miss K Hood Dance Specialist

Whilst attending a high school with performing arts college status, much like Shirley High School, Miss Hood's passion for dance performance was ignited. Even before completing her BTEC Dance, Miss Hood performed on various European stages including Sadlers Wells, the largest dance house in the UK, as well as a Mardi Gras production at Disney Land Paris.

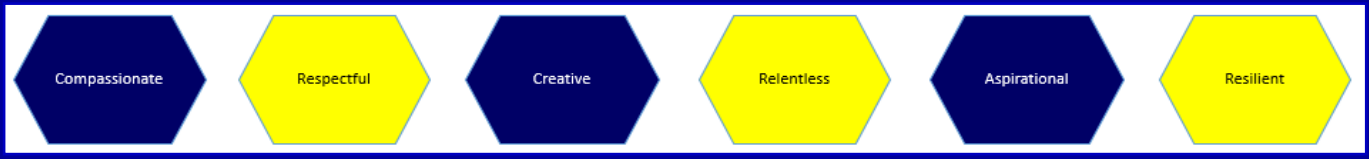
Upon completion of her Dance A-Level, Miss Hood successfully auditioned for a role as a dancer in an internationally touring grand illusion show, where she was Choreographer and Head Dancer for 7 years. The Grand Illusion show gained notoriety after reaching the final stages of Britain's Got Talent, allowing them to perform private, corporate and professional shows, including a standout performance for the Sheik of Abu Dhabi at his private estate.

Miss Hood completed an MA Degree in Choreography at one of the worlds most renowned dance schools, Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance and most recently completing teacher training at the Royal Academy of Dance.

Performing arts lessons at Shirley High School are taught in fantastic state of the art facilities. Dance, Drama & Music are taught once a week to all students at KS3. Students can then choose it as one of their options for GCSE. Further details are on our website.

Dance is taught in a dance studio with a sprung floor, fully equipped sound & light desk & floor to ceiling mirrors. Drama is taught in a dedicated studio newly installed in 2020, with a sprung floor and sound & lights desk.

Music is taught in two large classrooms that are fully equipped with the latest music technology. There are 5 practice rooms, 1 computer suite with iMacs, a dedicated drum room with 2 drum kits and a recording studio.



Shirley High School

House System



Introducing you to our Heads of Houses:



Miss Hood - Creators



Mrs Samuels - Directors



Miss Frimpong - Editors



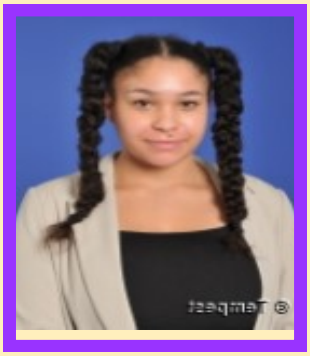
Miss Sarpong - Producers



Ellise Swain 13S



Elise Green 13I



Rebecca Lippett 13H



Sophie Rodger 13S

Our Year Group House Captains:

	Creators	Directors	Editors	Producers
Year 7	Isabella Fortune 7H Savannah-Blu Whittle-Graham 7Y	Annie Elvin 7Y Cody Relf 7H	Nafis Hussain 7H Shamekia Quarshie 7L	Joseph Oliveira 7S Aseda Oteng Anane - 7Y
Year 8	Zoe Blatch 8R Ayobami Odukoya 8H	Olivia Powell 8R Shane Kasongo 8Y	Robin Yilmaz 8Y Marylyn Yeboah-Kodie 8L	Harry Suter - 8R Maya Kakou-Bruce - 8R
Year 9	Ashaani Samson 9E Melissa Sclafani 9Y	Zhane Smith-Williams 9E Leo Danvers 9I	Kahleel Taylor 9R Ashinah Kabahoza 9E	Rocco Arthur - 9S Aaylia Rose - 9I
Year 10	Natasha Combey 11L Angelo Duarte 11E	Mischa Robinson 10R Kyle Barton 10S	Tye McCarthy 11E Katie Berry 11H	Ela Karadag - 10E William Da Costa - 10E
Year 11	Elise Swain 13S	Elise Green 13I	Rebecca Lippett 13H	Lucy Smith - 11Y Amadu Jalloh - 11R

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.

SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Year 11 Parent Information *For Student Success*

Welcome to the Year 11 Parent Information Newsletter where we will keep you updated with the latest news, events and resources being put in place to ensure that all students who will be sitting their GCSE examinations are in the best position possible to succeed. Many thanks for supporting your son/daughter through the first round of PPEs. These are vital for all students in the build up to next Summer especially with the prospect of more importance being placed on PPE results moving forward if the situation changes in regards to the final examinations.

Miss J Skeete (Head of Year 11)



We are extremely pleased with the introduction of Google Suite across Shirley High School. This has allowed for much easier access to files and resources from home as well as allowing us to teach remotely when needed through utilising Google Classroom and other Google software such as GoogleDocs and GoogleSheets. All students have access using their email address and login details.

These resources are vital for revision purposes and also for remote-learning should we have to go back into lockdown or if individual students need to self isolate again during the year.

Students need to speak to Miss Skeete (Head of Year 11) as soon as possible if they need any more support in regards to accessing these materials.



YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING

WAS HELD ON

TUESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2021

Due to the new variant, we ran the Year 11 Parents' Evening remotely again this year.

All bookings were made through the SchoolCloud online system which has been used for previous Parents' Evenings. This platform will also be used to host the remote teacher meetings.

schoolcloud

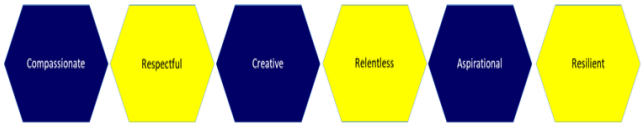
KEY DATES FOR 2021/2022

26 and 28 January 2022 - ***6th Form Interviews***

8 February 2022 - ***Information/Revision Evening***

7 March - 18 March 2022 - ***PPE 2***

16 May - 29 June 2022 - ***GCSE Exams***



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.



AQA GCSE Sciences (9-1) Kerboodle

The UK's most popular digital solution for AQA sciences

Part of AQA GCSE Sciences (9-1)

Written by teachers and assessment experts, Kerboodle provides unrivalled digital support for the AQA GCSE Sciences (9-1) specifications.

Content includes:

- A bank of support for the new practical exam questions, including practical worksheets with differentiated questions, method sheets and full teacher and technician support
- Calculation worksheets and interactive activities with step-by-step worked solutions to build maths skills, as well as access to resources from MyMaths.co.uk
- Built-in assessment tracking based on the widely adopted model used for Activate at KS3, including Checkpoint quizzes with differentiated follow-up activities, to track progress and provide formative feedback
- Practice questions and papers for both Higher and Foundation tiers
- Extension and *Go Further* worksheets to stretch higher-ability students
- Webquest research tasks to encourage independent learning and study
- Literacy worksheets and activities to embed key words and support the communication of scientific knowledge
- Lesson presentations to accompany every spread in the Student Books provided for whiteboard use, with built-in links to all relevant resources
- Animations clearly linked to learning objectives to help consolidate learning
- Digital versions of the Student Books so you and your students can access them anytime, anywhere

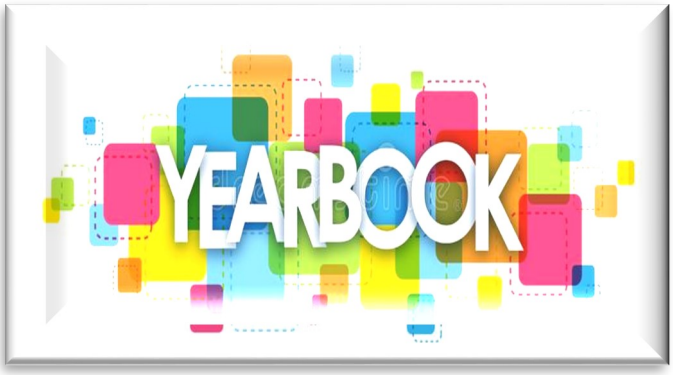
YEAR 11

HOODIE & YEARBOOK 2022

As we have done in previous years, Miss Samuels (KS4 PSA) is organising for both a Year 11 Hoody and Yearbook to be made available to all student in the year group.

Further information should have been sent out prior to this newsletter containing information on the purchase costs involved.

Please see Miss Samuels for more information and keep you eyes out for information on the content that will be going into the Yearbook to make it a special memento of our time together as a Year group at Shirley High School.



YEAR 11 PROM 2022



We are also currently planning the Year 11 Prom to give students a chance to celebrate the end of GCSE examinations together. We are planning to run the evening as usual at Surrey National Golf Course which has proved extremely popular with previous Year 11 cohorts. Miss Skeete & Miss Samuels are also however looking at alternative options if we are unable to run it as usual, so stay tuned for more updates. Remember, students will also need the below in order to attend the 2022 Year 11 Prom.

Attendance above 96%, Punctuality below 3%, Positive Behaviour Points!

EXAM STRESS: WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?





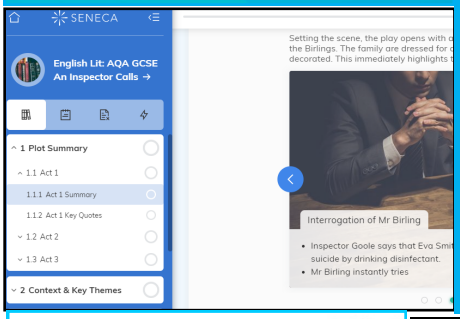






SENECA

Learn better, faster, free.



SENECA

5 reasons why Seneca Learning can help your students revise for their GCSEs

1. Evidence-informed

Our platform is based on cognitive sciences. We apply strategies known to enhance learning, such as retrieval practice, spaced practice, interleaving and dual-coding.

2. Research

In a randomised control trial with 1200 pupils, those using Seneca performed 2x better than peers using revision guides. The full report was published in the IMPACT journal.

3. Free

Seneca's GCSE resources are free for students, teachers and schools. No ads and no hidden costs.

4. Exam-board specific

Our GCSE courses were written by senior examiners and experienced teachers. It's exam-board specific (AQA, OCR, Edexcel, CIE, IGCSE, WJEC).

5. Monitor students' progress

The courses are automatically marked and you can monitor students' progress. Analytics show how the class responds to each lesson, assisting you when planning the next one.

For more information and to try our free GCSE courses, visit

www.senecalearning.com

gcsepod Education on Demand

Is Here!

www.gcsepod.com

Turns a mobile phone into a learning tool. Watch together, in the car, at home, anywhere. Content filtered for your child's exam. Helps your child achieve higher grades.

GCSEPod is proven to engage students, consolidate subject knowledge and accelerate progress.

"A real 'no brainer' – GCSEPod is a high quality resource for students which can be evidenced to have an impact on both progress and attainment for all ability levels."

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS

Your child's school has invested in the award winning resource, GCSEPod, to help your child reach their goals! Join the thousands of parents encouraging their children to use GCSEPod to support learning, homework and revision.

> Wow! Emma actually asked if GCSEPod counted as revision as she can't believe it. I can't believe it either! How fantastic to have a resource that meets students on their level, I am blown away! She actually does not feel as though she is doing revision!
>
> Parent

> I use GCSEPod to create mindmaps and flash cards, then watch the Pods back to consolidate my knowledge. I also watch them to recap information from lessons so I have a good understanding of the subject content. I like that the Pods are short and concise. Plus they contain informaton that will allow me to answer the exam question.
>
> Student

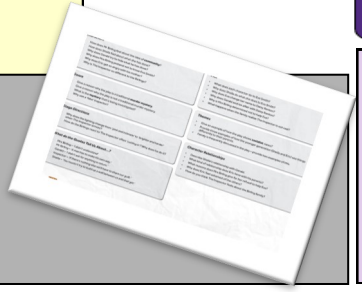
- Proven to increase results
- 21 exam mapped subjects
- Available online and offline
- Audio visual content
- Builds confidence
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At the heart of GCSEPod are our videos. We call them "Pods". Each one is a highly concentrated, 3-5 minute burst of audio-visual learning and specialist subject knowledge for 20+ curriculum areas. It is written by expert subject teachers then rigorously quality assured. Narrated by professional voice over artists and with visuals produced by our award-winning in-house design team, every Pod is mapped to GCSE and IGCSE exam boards and we are committed to keeping up with curriculum and technology changes.

For Parent & 'Quick Guide' videos go to Year 11 Revision Folder on GoogleDrive

Instant Revision Sheets
100+Sheets
Available via the KS4 Revision Room
Got a spare 10 minutes? Download a sheet now!
3 Levels - Know it; Grasp it; Think it!
Do you know it? Can you think it?



Phone Apps

PiXL MATHS · PiXL ENGLISH · PiXL GEOGRAPHY · PiXL HISTORY

For all PiXL Apps the School ID is:
SH49
Usernames and Passwords are available from your teachers

PINPOINT LEARNING

INDIVIDUALLY TARGETTED GCSE RESOURCES WITH REAL MATHS AND REAL RESULTS

www.pinpointlearning.co.uk

A revolutionary revision tool:

A dynamic progress tracking system created using real data from actual exams for each individual topic.

16 Page Booklets

With excellent GCSE exam questions on your five weakest areas from each past paper, tailored automatically to your level.

Personalised 20 minute tests

On the 6 easiest questions you got wrong in any past paper you have completed. Scientifically deduce whether you have actually improved.

"Pinpoint Learning has transformed the quality of feedback for our students after their mock exams. The personalised booklets and re-tests are superb. The teacher and student matrix are incredibly valuable tools and extremely user friendly. Pinpoint Learning is by far the best new resource we have used."

SIMS Parent App
Follow your child's progress

SIMs Parent App is a personalised app which allows you to keep updated with school information, calendar events and contact information.

You can update your child's personal details and view their reports.

Up-to-date Information for:
- Attendance
- Achievement and Behaviour Points

For more information and set up advice please contact office@shirley.croydon.sch.uk

MathsWatch

The GCSE package:

- 240+ video clips covering every GCSE topic;
- 230 '1 MINUTE MATHS' videos to allow for quick revisions;
- A complete Maths eBook with answers - the only textbook you will ever need;
- Homework/Test setting tool with automatic marking;
- A bank of 1000s of interactive exam-style questions for students' independent work with instant feedback.

Click

Fantastic Keyword Revision App

PiXL Unlock

Unlock your subject vocabulary

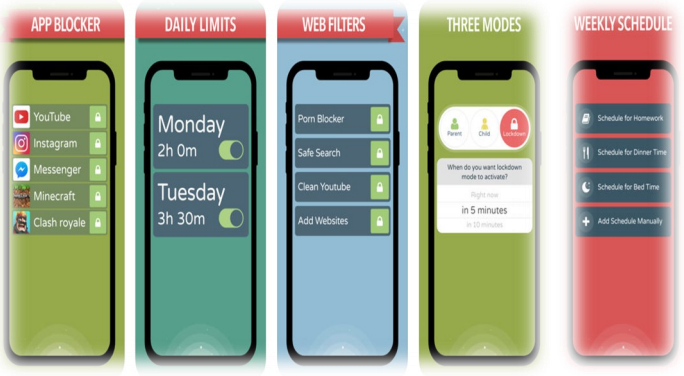
https://vocab.pixl.org.uk

Ensuring students understand and use subject specific terminology and keywords correctly.

AVAILABLE PLATFORMS

Use your PiXL Maths App Username and Password

Kidslox is the perfect way to manage your family's screen time. The parental controls let you block apps, block internet and filter web content with ease. One account is all you need to add as many iPhones, iPads, iPods and other mobile devices as you have in your family. Prioritise your family time now by taking a moment to place daily limits on your child's screen time. Parental control has never been so easy.



- Disable disruptive apps individually.
- Set daily screen time limits.
- Use Schedules for device free homework time, dinnertime, bedtime and family time.
- Switch between unrestricted 'Parent mode', custom 'Child mode' and fully restricted 'Lockdown mode' at the touch of a button.
- Set one off periods in Child or Lockdown Mode using the Kidslox timer.
- Stop your clever kids from changing the restrictions with a unique Kidslox PIN.
- Filter pornography and other adult content to give your child a safe browser experience.

4.5, 10.5K Ratings

Plus Answer

PiXL Independence

- Every subject covered!
- Over 70 different booklets
- Answers for every booklet
- Booklets available at every level

Access is available via the Year 11 Revision Folder on GoogleDrive and is where you can access over 70 different revision booklets across all subject areas. Students can print off and sit the papers and the answers are available for you to mark their work and help identify areas to revise.

PiXL Independence

For more information and set up advice please contact

Log on to Year 11 Revision Folder on GoogleDrive to access materials.

- Multiple choice questions
- Short Answer questions
- Long answer questions

PiXL Partners in excellence

PiXL

Partners in Excellence

Have you started yet?

PASTORAL INFORMATION



Uniform Reminders

The standard of uniform has been very good this term and I would like to thank parents/carers for their support of the school and working with us to achieve the high standards required.

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.

As we approach the Christmas holidays, I wish everyone a happy and fun-filled festive season, but to please remember that the party spirit, which may see extreme haircuts, extreme hair colours, piercings, excessive make-up (including false eyelashes) and coloured nail extensions, must finish in time for the students to be presented, according to our uniform rules on the first day of term – Wednesday 5 January 2022.

Please be advised, particularly in the case of 'Christmas present' 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 will not be accepted. We accept one pair of stud earrings only. I would therefore suggest that this two week break is not an ideal time to get new extra ear piercings, nose piercings or any other visible piercings, unless the student is prepared to and can 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.**

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

Hair accessories must be navy, black, grey or white in colour only.

Trainers are not permitted to be worn with our school uniform. Students must wear school shoes that are wholly black, leather or leather equivalent and waterproof.

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.

As winter fast approaches please ensure that you are also aware of the following:

- Coats, hats, scarves and gloves can be worn to and from school in the winter months.
- Coats, scarves and gloves can be worn in school in the winter months, but during **break and lunchtime only**, when students are outside.
- Hats are not permitted to be worn in school **at any time**.
- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn in school **at any time**.
- Leggings are not permitted to be worn in school at **any time**.
- It is recommended that students have a warm coat rather than additional non uniform items such as extra jumpers, cardigans etc.
- In adverse weather, Mr Myton - Principal will inform students of any permitted changes to our uniform.

These items are not acceptable as part of our school uniform. In adverse weather Mr Myton (Principal) will inform students of any permitted changes to our uniform.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

I would like to thank parents/carers for their continued support with the attendance of their children especially during these difficult times. We are pleased and proud of the resilience of our students and the fact that the school attendance has remained so high.
The best place for our students is here in school so they do not have gaps in their education knowledge. If they are not here they will miss all aspects of their education – personal development as well as academic work. If we want our children to be successful in the future they need to be in school on time, everyday.

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

Current legislation, and current guidance from PHE and UKHSA:

Attendance expectations

Attendance is mandatory. The usual rules on attendance continue to apply, including:

- parents' duty to ensure that their child of compulsory school age attends regularly at the school where the child is a registered student
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with local authorities' codes of conduct
- the duty on local authorities to put in place arrangements for identifying, and to follow up with, children missing education

Not attending in circumstances relating to COVID-19

This category must be used to record sessions that take place in the 2021 to 2022 academic year where a student does not attend because their travel to, or attendance at, school would be:

- contrary to guidance relating to the incidence or transmission of COVID-19 from Public Health England (PHE), or its successor UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), and/or the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
- prohibited by any legislation (or instruments such as statutory directions) relating to the incidence or transmission of COVID-19

This category must only be used to record where a student is not attending for the reasons set out above. It should not be used to record any other type of non-attendance or absence - for example, where a parent or student is anxious about attending school because of COVID-19.
The schools COVID-19 operational guidance sets out when pupils should self-isolate and when they ought to be tested in the 2021 to 2022 academic year.

Examples in which 'not attending in circumstances relating to COVID-19' could apply
In line with current legislation, and guidance from PHE (and its successor the UKHSA) and DHSC, examples are as follows.

Students who are required to self-isolate as they have symptoms or confirmed COVID-19
Students who have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test, should self-isolate and get a confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test.
If a pupil tests negative and if they feel well, 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 should be recorded as code I (illness). Code X should only be used up until the time of the negative test result. Schools should not retrospectively change the attendance register due to a negative test result.
If a student tests positive, they should continue to self-isolate in line with public health guidance. Code X should be used for the period of self-isolation until the test. After the student tests positive, they should be recorded as code I (illness) until they are able to return to school.

Students who are a close contact of someone who has symptoms or confirmed COVID-19
Students who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly, required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test. They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category and provided with details about self-isolation.
Students are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Students who are required by legislation to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine

As usual, parents 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, the school should use code X in the register.

Pupils who are self-isolating but who have not had a PCR test

In line with public health advice, pupils with symptoms must self-isolate and schools should strongly encourage students to take a PCR test. Where the student is unable to take a PCR test, the school should record the student as code X in the register.

Schools should follow up with families if they are not satisfied with the reason as to why the student is not in school. Schools can request supporting evidence from the family. Where the school is not satisfied with the reason given for absence, they may record this using one of the unauthorised absence codes, in line with the school attendance: guidance for schools.

Remote education

If a student is not attending school because their attendance would be contrary to government guidance or legislation around COVID-19, we expect schools to offer them access to remote education. Schools should keep a record of, and monitor engagement with, this activity, but this does not need to be tracked in the attendance register.

- 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 14 days from when the member of their household first had symptoms. Code X will be used during this period.
- The NHS test and trace guidance states that a person should self-isolate for 14 days if they have had recent close contact with a person who has 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 14 days since they were last in close contact with the person that has tested positive when they were infectious. Code X will be used for these students during this period.
- 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.

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)
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)

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 very 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.

Research suggests that ….

- 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.

Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal



BEHAVIOUR



I would like to congratulate students on their behaviour, in general, this term. 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.

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 of 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. Please continue to insist on high standards of courtesy and good manners as well as the importance of being respectful to all members of our community.

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 a sanction and have the phone confiscated.

SECURITY



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. 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. Please avoid attending school to see a member of staff without an appointment. Our staff may be busy in their roles and we do not wish you to have a wasted journey.
It is also important for all to understand that any parent / carer or external visitor who is rude, abusive or aggressive to any member of our staff will be asked to leave the premises.

FESTIVE HOLIDAYS

The festive period can be a particularly difficult time for victims of domestic abuse. Financial worries, excessive alcohol drinking and spending 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

In an emergency call the police 999



SCHOOL TRIPS





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 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.

Proposed residential trips abroad for 2022 – 2026 (5 year cycle):

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 about these Shirley High School trips, please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal: francis@shirly.croydon.sch.uk (Ski America, Watersports trip to France)

Mr J Rayner - Associate Vice Principal: rayner@shirley.croydon.sch.uk (Ski Europe)

Miss C Pepperrell - Head of Inclusion & Student Support: pepperrell@shirley.croydon.sch.uk (Disneyland Paris)

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 http://www.familyspacecroydon.co.uk 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

Parents can be referred via
Croydon's Early help Hubearlyhelp@croydon.gov.uk

Email Croydon's Parenting and Relationship Hub :
PRH@croydon.gov.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. Off the Record are looking for ways to get information about their free online counselling service to young people, so any suggestions you may have for them would be welcome. Currently they have the capacity to take on new clients and their commitment to the local CCG who fund them is that those who register, will have contact within 48 hours and will start 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 do not 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.

LGfL DigiSafe
Keeping children safe



Children have spent much more time on devices in 2021 – for schoolwork, online tutoring or during leisure time – so this is the perfect opportunity to provide parents with top tips and advice before they gift wrap new devices or let children loose on their holiday games and apps.

There will be live dropin sessions for parents on Wednesday evenings at 7.00 pm on the @LGfLDigiSafe Facebook page this December with tips for what to watch out for, how to stay safe, what to talk about and parental controls for new and existing devices, as well as the opportunity to ask any questions you may have. Plus we may have some special guests...

Head to facebook.com/LGfLDigiSafe to sign up for a reminder on the day. The event will be run by experts in the DigiSafe team at LGfL.

LIVE STREAMING OF SEXUAL OFFENDING - CEOPS EDUCATION TEAM BRIEFING



In response to reports of an increased threat of sexual offending via Live streaming apps, the following item posted on the CSCB site gives further information and guidance:
http://croydonlcsb.org.uk/2017/12/live-streaming-of-sexual-offending-ceops-education-team-briefing/



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 will be more children handling digital devices than ever before this Christmas, 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 after they unwrap their digital gifts? Here are our top tips for parents/carers:

Buying gifts
Take care when shopping online for your Christmas presents. 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 before Christmas Day 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

SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL



SAFE HAPPY SUCCESSFUL