



Sheldon School

BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

New Student Welcome Pack



We are very excited to welcome you to Sheldon School! In this pack you'll find everything you need to know about your transition to secondary school.

Our Transition Days are **Thursday 10 July** and **Friday 11 July 2025**. This is a chance for all new Year 7 students to meet their tutor, other members of the tutor group and some of the teachers at Sheldon. It will be lots of fun and will help prepare you for starting secondary school in September.

Name:



Welcome to Sheldon School!



Mr Peter Lynch
Headteacher

Two years ago, I found myself in a similar position to you. I was also new school to Sheldon School. I know, like me, you will be feeling nervous and a little bit apprehensive. But I wanted to take this opportunity to say I have found Sheldon to be the most welcoming and special school I have ever worked in.

I am really excited about meeting you on your Transition Days and embarking on an educational journey with you over the next five to seven years.

I hope you use the two Transition Days to make a positive first impression with your tutor and teachers, and embrace all the opportunities that Sheldon has to offer.

Good luck!

For more information about Transition to Sheldon, scan the QR Code or visit our website www.sheldonschool.co.uk



The Transition Team



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Miss Kilbane
Deputy Head of Year 7

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Pastoral Lead

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Mrs Collins
Primary Liaison

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Ms Zuanella
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Mrs Freeman
Teacher of the Deaf

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Mrs Sellwood
Teaching Assistant
Manager

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Mrs Southall-Teale
Teaching Assistant

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If you have any questions about transition to Sheldon, please get in touch with Mrs Collins, our Primary Liaison.

Once the school year begins, if you or your parents have any questions, you can always talk to your tutor or Head of Year.

If you are a SEN student, you'll also get to know our SENCO as well as teaching assistants who can help you with the transition to secondary school.

Year 7 Transition Days

Thursday 10 July 2024

Friday 11 July 2024

During Sheldon School Transition Days you will meet your tutor, Head of Year, Deputy Head of Year, some of the teachers at Sheldon and Year 11 Prefects. You will start making friends and meet other new students. We hope that the Transition Days will give you an idea of what to expect in September so that you can enjoy your summer holiday without worrying about the move to secondary school.

What will happen during Transition Days?

- **Day 1 (Thursday 10 July)** is all about getting to know your new tutor group. You'll play lots of games, meet new friends and will get to learn your way around the school. On this day, you will be the only group in school.
- **Day 2 (Friday 11 July)** will give you a chance to experience a typical school day with lessons and a timetable. On this day, other year groups will be in school.

What will happen when I arrive on Thursday 10 July?

Prefects and staff will be waiting at the main entrance to show you where to go. All new students will meet on the Year 7 Playground with their tutor group.

Please note: there are no spare parking spaces at Sheldon School. If you are coming by car, please ask to be dropped off and picked up in the Sheldon lay-by.

What do I wear for turn around?

Please wear your primary school uniform. This helps people in the school see that you are new and can stop and help you when needed.

It is a good idea to buy your Sheldon uniform near the end of the summer holidays in case you have a growth spurt.

What do I need to bring?

You should bring a pencil case containing pens, pencils, ruler, coloured pencils, etc. You should also bring your primary school PE kit. Your parents will receive information about setting up an account on ParentPay. You can use this to pay for food from our Refectory or you can bring a packed lunch.

How will I know what lessons I have?

Your tutor will give you a timetable. This will tell you when you have a lesson, who the teacher is and where to go. Your main timetable will be issued in September.

Sheldon is much bigger than your primary school, but you will soon learn how to find your way around. If you need help, ask a member of staff or a Prefect. Some important places to find are the Year 7 Playground where you will arrive on your first day, the Refectory where you can buy lunch, the library and Year 7 Office.



Year 7 Playground



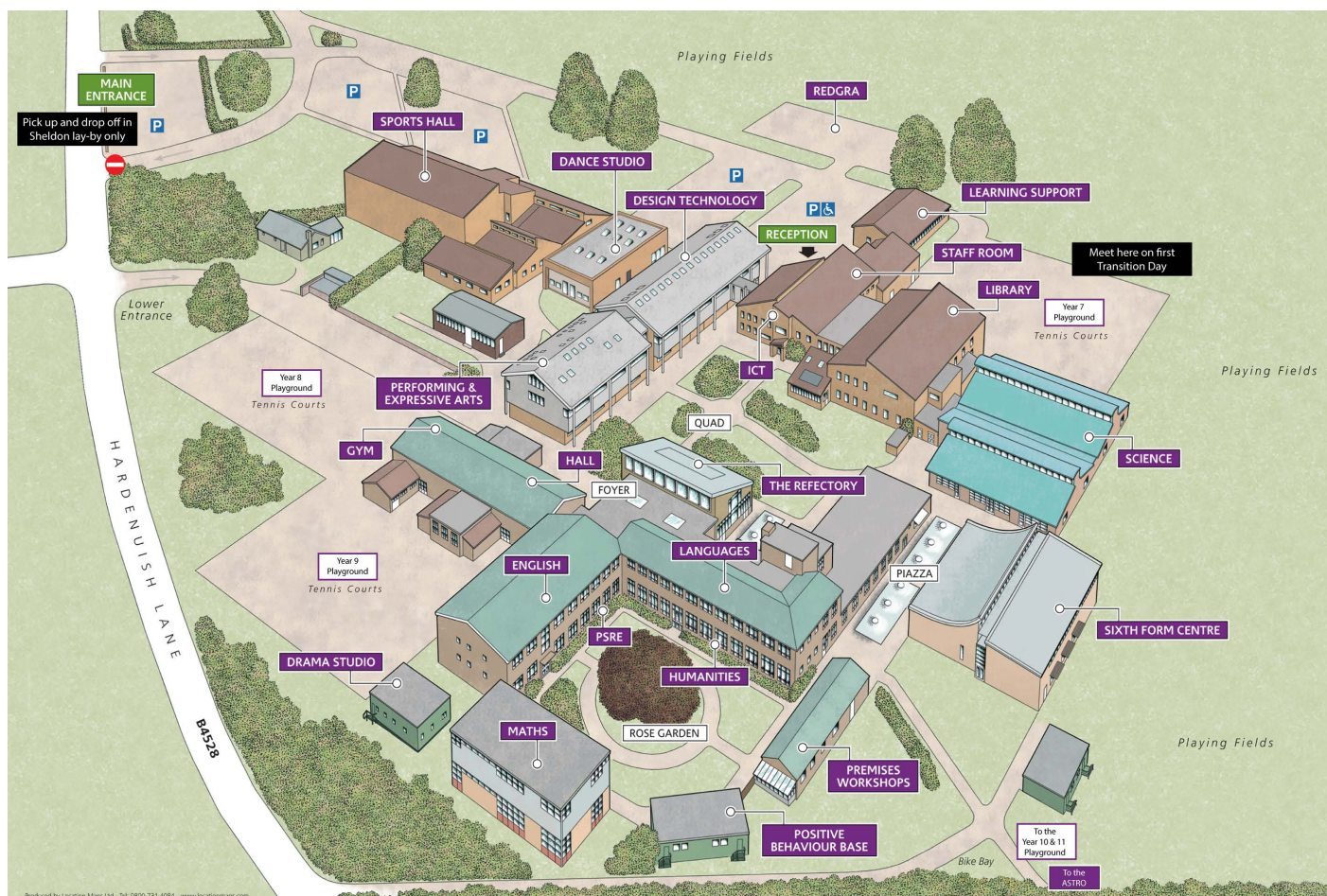
Refectory



Library



Year 7 Office



What will be new about starting school at Sheldon?

- You will be part of a tutor group.
- There will be new rules and routines to learn.
- You'll have a new Sheldon uniform, including a tie.
- For PE lessons and dance, you'll need a Sheldon PE kit.
- The school is much bigger and there are more people around.
- You will follow a timetable of lessons for each day of the week.
- Each subject has a different classroom and teacher
- Many classes are held in purpose built rooms for the subject – like science labs, DT workshops, kitchens and art rooms.
- You will need to carry all of your books and equipment to each class, but you can use a locker to store your belongings.
- Break and lunch arrangements will be different. You can choose to eat at several different locations around the school.
- You'll need to be more independent, organised and responsible for yourself.
- You may have a longer journey to school and may need to take a bus.
- There are over 40 clubs and activities available for you to join including sports, drama and music, crochet, Pokemon, chess and more!
- School trips include Year 7 Camp in September, cultural exchanges, museums in London and more!
- You'll make lots of new friends and will have plenty of exciting new opportunities!



Uniform & Equipment Checklist

Sheldon Uniform

- Sheldon jumper*
- Sheldon tie*
- White button up shirt with collar
- Mid-grey trousers or tailored shorts
- Mid-grey knee length skirt
- Black shoes (no trainers)

Sheldon PE Uniform & Equipment

- Outdoor PE top*
Boys PE: purple and gold rugby top
Girls PE: purple and gold 1/4 zip top
- Black Sheldon shorts or skort*
- Purple and gold striped socks*
- Black jogging bottoms or leggings for cold weather
- Trainers
- PE kit bag⁺
- Boot Bag⁺

Depending on the sport you are learning, your PE teacher may require:

- Football boots
- Gum Shields⁺
- Shin Pads⁺

* Available at Scholars

+ May be available as bundle at Scholars

Scholars Chippenham

3 The Causeway, Chippenham, SN15 3BT

T: (01249) 656600

E: chippenham@scholars-uk.com

W: www.scholars-uk.com

Daily Equipment

- Pencil case
- Pencils
- Black Pens
- Green Pens
- Highlighters
- Shatter-proof ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil Sharpener
- Scientific calculator (our preferred model is Casio FX83GT-CW)
- Compass & Protractor

Additional Equipment

- French/German/Spanish dictionaries
- Colour pencils
- Water bottle

Some courses may require additional materials. You will be notified in advance if this is the case.

Equipment bundles will be available for new students to purchase via ParentPay. We'll have more information about ordering equipment



Clubs and Trips

We have over 40 clubs running during lunch and after school at Sheldon. These may change throughout the year, so pay attention to announcements from your tutor on online about what clubs are available.

We encourage everyone to try out at least one club each term. It's a great way to meet new friends, try out new activities or get even better at things you love! Our clubs are for everyone, whether you have a lot of experience or none at all!

You can learn a new skill like crochet, ukulele or badminton. Maybe you'd like to take the stage by joining Sheldon Singers, Sheldon Orchestra or performing in our whole school production. You can get creative in our art and photography clubs, Sheldonian newspaper club or Lego Masters Challenge. We even have a Reptile Club!



Sheldon Singers



Lego Club



Sports Clubs



Science Club



Pokemon Club



Dance Club

Trips and Enrichment Activities



Plas Pencelli



Ten Tors & Duke of Edinburgh Award



International Trips



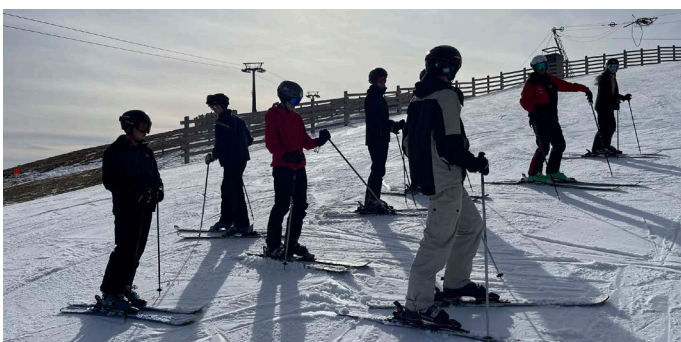
Young Musician of the Year



Whole School Production



World Book Day



Ski Trip

In Year 9, you can take part in adventure activities like the Duke of Edinburgh Award or Ten Tors Challenge.

We also have amazing trips you can join like our ski trip and our annual visit to Plas Pencelli in Wales.

You may also have opportunities to take trips abroad!

Frequently Asked Questions



What if I get lost? How will I find my way around?

When you first start, teachers will understand if you are a little late. Use your map and ask for help to find your way around. If you stay with others from your tutor group, it makes it easier!

How will I make friends? What if I'm the only one from my school?

You will meet many new people on your first day. Make friends with the other members of your tutor group or make connections with other students you see walking into school or on the bus. There are many students joining Sheldon from smaller schools, so you won't be the only one! Joining clubs in the first few weeks of school is also a great way to find people who share your interests.



How much homework will I get?

We have a homework schedule at Sheldon where each subject has a day that homework is set and you have a week to complete it. Much of our homework is completed online as a multiple choice quiz.



What if I cannot do the work?

If you are having trouble understanding what you are learning, talk to your class teacher or your tutor. Everyone at Sheldon wants you to do well and learn many interesting things while you are here.



Where will I keep all my books and equipment?

All the equipment you need for lessons (ie: your pencil case) should be carried with you from class to class in your school bag. You can use a locker to keep some of your belongings. Your parents will get information about how to rent a locker.

What happens at lunch time?

Lunch is busier than primary school, but you also get a lot more choices. You can purchase hot food from the Refectory and Diner or can get grab & go items from the Pod on the Year7 Playground. You can eat anywhere except classrooms and corridors. On nice days, students can enjoy eating outside on the field.

After you've eaten, you can play games on the Year 7 Playground or you can join a lunch club to play chess, work on the allotment, practice an instrument and more!



What do I do if something is worrying me?

Your tutor is a great person to talk to. You'll see them every day and will also have regular one-to-one meetings to talk about how you're doing. You can also talk to the Pastoral Lead who is there to help support your well-being, as well as the Head of Year and Deputy Head of Year. Make sure you don't keep your worries to yourself and talk to us if you need help.



Year 7 Camp

One of the best parts of joining Sheldon is Year 7 Camp. This annual tradition is a way for tutor groups to get to know each other and work as a team outside of the classroom. We typically camp out for one night in September at Cranham in Gloucestershire.

You'll take part in exciting activities like archery and orienteering. We'll spend time around a huge campfire and will have lots of fun. The best part is sleeping under the stars with all of your new friends from your tutor group!

We'll send more information about camp dates and a kit list over the summer after you are find out about your tutor group.





New Parents' Evening

Thursday 11 July 2025

We'd like to invite all new parents to meet the Headteacher, Head of Year and your child's tutor at one of our New Parents' Evenings. You'll be informed of which evening to attend when your child is placed in a tutor group.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about Sheldon and the Year 7 team. You'll also have an opportunity to meet other families new to the school as well as members of our parents' organisation, the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund. Our peripatetic music teachers will be on hand to talk about music lessons and Scholars will attend to answer questions about ordering uniforms.

Due to space limitations, we ask that only parents and carers attend.



**Sheldon Student
Opportunity
Fund**

The Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund is a parent run charity that funds student enrichment activities. Each year, the SSOF helps fund trips, equipment for clubs and activities so that costs are kept down for all students. The SSOF has funded entry to dance competitions, purchased new tents for Duke of Edinburgh and Ten Tors, funded coaches for Year 7 Camp and more.

The SSOF raises funds through raffles, quiz nights and our school lottery. It is always looking for new members who want to help shape fundraising initiatives and awarding grants.

To get involved, email opportunityfund@sheldonschool.co.uk

Learn more at www.sheldonschool.co.uk or follow us on Facebook [@sheldonsch](https://www.facebook.com/sheldonsch) and Instagram [@thesheldonschool](https://www.instagram.com/thesheldonschool)