



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well? A very warm welcome to the first term of the academic year. It has been a busy (and wet) week here at Sheldon and we have been delighted to welcome all our students back to school.

First, huge congratulations to our new cohort of Year 7 students, who have made such a positive start to their Sheldon journey. I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting their lessons, meeting them in their free-time and directing a number of them to their lessons as they get to grips with the room numbering. It has also been fantastic to see so many familiar faces who have joined us back in the sixth form. We have welcomed our highest number of external candidates this year from other schools across Wiltshire and BANES. So, a very warm welcome to the Sheldon family! Almost 150 students are starting their sixth form journey with us, studying a wide range of different subjects.

On Wednesday we welcomed back all students in Years 8-11 and Year 13 all moving up into their new year groups. During tutor time and assemblies, we will be outlining our school values, uniform reminders, new equipment expectations and the importance of attendance. Mr Rumble, Assistant Headteacher, who leads on attendance across the school, has already shared with you the attendance changes that came in to force this year.

Parking arrangements

This is just a reminder that parents should not be using the school car park at the start or end of the school day. This is due to health and safety reasons, and to ensure that our 1600+ students can leave the site safely. If you need to pick your child up, please consider using the Chippenham Football and Cricket club car park or parking in the Lidl car park on the A420. Please do not park in the bus lane or along Hardenhuish Lane at any time, as this restricts access to both secondary schools.

Effective Communication

At Sheldon we believe that open communication with parents and carers is essential to a successful relationship. So, please get in touch with us if you have any concerns about your child. Contact should first go to your child's tutor, who can advise you and pass on information to the relevant person/s. If you are unsure who to contact, please email admin@sheldonschool.co.uk

All staff contact information and further advice can be found on our website [here](#) and it shows you who is the best person to contact, if you do have a concern.

As the school no longer has student planners, if your child has an appointment or needs to leave early, please email their tutor or provide a note/letter that can be shown to reception when they sign out.

Wet weather arrangements

The weather last week certainly tested the school's wet weather plan, so for those of you who are new to the school, we provide indoor spaces when the weather is wet or cold. Students have access to the following indoor spaces during these times:

Year Group	Location	Shared indoor spaces
Year 7	A9 next to the sportshall	Refectory Diner Library Sportshall
Year 8	Main hall and vestibule	
Year 9	Main hall and vestibule	
Year 10	H1 and H2	
Year 11	H3 and H4	

Students do have access to outside space under large canopies; Yr7-9 can use the ones next to the refectory and Yr10-11 can use the ones next to the Sixth Form block.

Term 1 & 2 extra-curricular clubs

These should now be available to book on ePraise over the next week or so, and a list, location and times of the 30+ clubs this term can be found below. Students can just turn up to these clubs or sign up on ePraise.

Student Activities – Terms 1 & 2

Most clubs will begin the week commencing 9 September.
 Unless otherwise stated, lunch clubs run from 12:35–1:15pm and after school clubs from 3–4pm.

<div style="background-color: #6a3d9a; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">MONDAY</div> <p><i>Lunch</i> Puzzle Club M1 Miss Libby All Years 12:45–1:15</p> <p>String Group A1 Mrs Hall All Years</p> <p><i>After School</i> Pokemon Club Library Mr Humphries All Years</p> <p>BSL Club V13 Mrs Hicks All Years 3:10–4:00</p> <p>Music Tech Club A2 Mr Goldsworthy All Years</p> <p>Badminton Sports Hall All Years 3:00–4:15</p>	<p>Flute Group A2 Mr Fosker All Years <i>Grade 1 and above</i></p> <p><i>After School</i> Dungeons & Dragons Club M2 Mr Davies Y8 & Y9 3:00–5:00 <i>Begins 17 Sept</i></p> <p>Sheldon Voices A2 Mr Goldsworthy All Years</p> <p>Lego Inter-Tutor Challenge S4 Mr Grainger Year 7 <i>Term 2 only, see your tutor</i></p> <p>Lego Club S4 Mr Grainger KS3 <i>Begins Term 2</i></p> <p>KS4 Dance Company Dance Studio Miss Spalding KS4 (Audition only) <i>Auditions 17 Sept</i></p> <p>Netball - Girls Y8 & Y9 3:00–4:15</p> <p>Rugby - Boys Y8 & Y9 3:00–4:15</p>	<p>Hockey Astro KS4 & KS5 3:00–4:15</p> <div style="background-color: #6a3d9a; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">WEDNESDAY</div> <p><i>Lunch</i> Ukulele Club A2 Mr Goldsworthy All Years</p> <p>Chess Club Library Mr Rani All Years</p> <p><i>After School</i> Darts Club A11 Mr Humphries All Years</p> <p>Science Club S8 Miss Perrington KS3 <i>Begins 9 Oct</i></p> <p>Sheldon Orchestra A1 Mrs Hall All Years</p> <p>Y9 Dance Club Dance Studio Miss Spalding Y9</p> <p>Football - Girls Y7 & Y8 3:00–4:15</p>	<div style="background-color: #6a3d9a; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">THURSDAY</div> <p><i>Lunch</i> Brass Group A1 Mr Sanders All Years</p> <p>Allotment Club S7 & Raised Beds Dr Aiken All Years <i>Seasonal</i></p> <p>Humanities Club HS Miss Frater All Years</p> <p><i>After School</i> Paper Society (Maths Revision) Refectory Mr Tweedie Y11</p> <p>KS3 Dance Company Dance Studio Miss Spalding KS4 (Audition only) <i>Auditions 12 Sept</i></p> <p>Netball - Girls Y7 3:00–4:15</p> <p>Fitness - Girls Y8, Y9, Y10 & Y11 3:00–4:15</p>	<div style="background-color: #6a3d9a; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">FRIDAY</div> <p><i>Lunch</i> Wellbeing Club P4 Mrs Bennett Y7</p> <p>Christian Union A11 Youth Workers All Years</p> <p><i>After School</i> Y7 & Y8 Dance Club Dance Studio Miss Spalding Y7 & Y8</p>
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Clubs may change due to staff availability and weather.

See your tutor and epraise for more information about Student Activities at Sheldon.

This page will be updated as new clubs are added. <https://www.sheldonschool.co.uk/home/our-community/enrichment-clubs-and-trips/> : Clubs may change due to staff availability and weather. Students should check with their tutor and ePraise for more information about Student Activities at Sheldon.

Year 7 epraise/ Homework

Year 7 students will not be getting homework until the week commencing Monday 23rd September, 2024. This is to give them time to settle in, but also to allow time for them to learn how to use the ePraise system. The login details will be shared with students in their first Computing lesson.

Parents were sent a Welcome email last week with their username and initial password. If you need any further advice and guidance, please access the parent guide here

<https://community.epraise.veracross.com/s/article/Epraise-Parents-Getting-Started> But, if you need additional support or have further problems please email: support@sheldonschool.co.uk

Homework Reminder

From this week subjects should be setting homework for students (Year 7 Homework starts on the 23rd September). Homework is set on ePraise. The homework calendar can be found here:

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Key Stage 3	Week 1	English Geography	ICT* PE**	Mathematics Languages	Science History	PSRE* Drama*
	Week 2	English Art	DT Music	Mathematics Languages	Science Dance*	

Key Stage 4	Weeks 1 and 2	English Option A	PE** Option B	Mathematics Option C	Science Option D	PSRE*
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* Homework will be set less frequently for this subject

** Homework will be set at the end of units of study for this subject

There is a key dates and events document below, which outlines term dates, parents' evenings, concerts and other key school events that may be useful to print off for your child.

Thanks again for your continued support, and I hope the weather brightens up for the remainder of the term.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Lynch
Headteacher

Sheldon School Term Dates and Key Events

2024 – 2025

Academic year begins	Mon 2 September 2024	SDD Days School Open for staff
October Half term	Fri 25 October 2024 – Mon 4 November 2024	Mon/Tues 2-3 Sept 2024
Christmas holiday	Fri 20 December 2024 (finish 12.35pm) – Tues 7 January 2025	Fri 25 Oct 2024
February half term	Mon 17 February 2025 – Fri 21 February 2025	Mon 4 Nov 2024
Easter holiday	Fri 4 April 2025 – Mon 21 April 2025	Mon/Tues 6-7 Jan 2025
Half term break	Mon 26 May 2025 – Fri 30 May 2025	Fri 4 Apr 2025
Summer term ends	Fri 18 July 2025 school finishes 12.35pm	SDD DAYS School Closed Mon 2 Dec 2024

<p>Year 11 & 13 Revision Evening Thurs 26 Sept 2024</p> <p>Sixth Form Open Evening Tues 15 Oct 2024</p> <p>Awards Evening Thurs 24 Oct 2024</p> <p>Year 9 Options Evening Thurs 16 Jan 2025</p> <p>Open Mornings 23-25 Sept 2024 30 Jun-01 Jul 2025</p> <p>Year 6 Open Evening Weds 2 Jul 2025</p>	<p>Parents' Evenings Years 7-9 – 4.00pm – 6.30pm (f2f) Year 7 L side Tues 22 Apr 2025 Year 7 R side Thurs 01 May 2025 Year 8 L side Tues 06 Mar 2025 Year 8 R side Tues 11 Mar 2025 Year 9 L side Tues 28 Jan 2025 Year 9 R side Mon 03 Feb 2025</p> <p>Years 10-13 – 3.45pm – 6.45pm (f2f) Year 10 Thurs 13 Feb 2025 Year 11 Tues 07 Jan 2025 Year 12 Thurs 19 Jun 2025 Year 13 Tues 01 Apr 2025</p> <p>Year 12 Parent Information Evenings Opportunities & Expectations Tues 17 Sept 2024</p> <p>Post-18 options Tues 10 Jun 2025</p> <p>New Year 7 Parents' Evening Thurs 10 Jul 2025 6-9pm</p>	<p>Year 11 & 13 Mock Weeks (classrooms) w/c 18 November 2024 w/c 25 November 2024 (Sports Hall) w/c 24 February 2025 w/c 03 March 2025</p> <p>Year 7, 9 & 12 Assessment Weeks w/c 09 December 2024 w/c 16 December 2024</p> <p>Year 8 & 10 Assessment Weeks w/c 13 January 2025 w/c 20 January 2025</p> <p>Year 10 & 12 Mock Weeks (Sports Hall) w/c 28 April 2025 w/c 05 May 2025</p> <p>Year 7, 8 & 9 Assessment Weeks w/c 16 June 2025 w/c 23 June 2025</p>	<p>Year 10 Work Experience Weeks Week beginning 16 June 2025 Week beginning 23 June 2025</p> <p>Year 12 Work Experience Week Week beginning 07 July 2025</p> <p>Christmas Concert Thurs 05 Dec 2024</p> <p>School Production 09-11 Dec 2025</p> <p>Summer Concert Tues 15 Jul 2025</p>
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