

# Standard

BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

## Students Achieve Excellent Results in Summer Exams

We were exceptionally proud of the Class of 2025 Year 11 & Year 13 students as they collected their results this summer.

The progress made by this cohort of Sheldon Sixth Form students was the strongest in Sheldon's history, with a record breaking value-added score of +0.58. This means that on average, each student achieved more than half a grade higher than expected based on their prior attainment.

Almost all students secured the grades required for their first-choice university or apprenticeship places.

They will now be starting the next chapter of their education journey in universities across the country, including Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Leeds, Loughborough and London School of Economics. They're also starting apprenticeships at prestigious institutions including Rolls Royce and KPMG.

We look forward to following their exciting futures!

Read more about our Sixth Form Exam Results here Our Year 11 students celebrated another fantastic set of GCSE results, with overall attainment rising again this year.

An impressive 74% of students achieved grades 9–4, while 56% secured grades 9–5, both improvements on last year's outcomes.

Although no national progress scores are being published this year, Sheldon's Attainment 8 score has increased when compared with last year.

There were also some exceptional subject results at grades 9–4, including:

- Film Studies 100%
- Media 95%
- Photography 93%
- Art 91%
- Food 88%
- French 82%

As always, the school celebrates not only the headline figures but also the effort, resilience, and commitment shown by every student in reaching their goals.

Read more about our Year 11 Results here













"We are incredibly proud of our students' achievements and the immense hard work they have shown to secure these results.

There are so many individual success stories. We are very proud of what they have achieved."

-Pete Lynch, Headteacher



What a brilliant start to the year it's been at Sheldon. The school continues to thrive, with students making the most of every opportunity and striving to be their best.

## Awards Evening 2025

On Wednesday 22 October, we held our annual Awards Evening. This is an opportunity to highlight academic and personal achievements of our students from the previous academic year.

Each year we invite someone from the Sheldon community to be our guest speaker. This year, we were very pleased to welcome Louis Austin back to Sheldon.

Louis is a former student who went on to study at Oxford and Bristol and is now a barrister based in Birmingham. He is one of the youngest in the region to qualify and attributes his time at Sheldon as a key part of helping him achieve this goal.

Everyone at Sheldon School would like to thank Louis for speaking. We will be making a donation to Wiltshire Mind on his behalf.

We'd like to thank everyone who helped to organise our Awards Evening, especially our award sponsors, the Chippenham Floral Society for the beautiful arrangements on our stage, Innovate Impact Food Group for the reception refreshments and Sporting Gifts for providing engraving and awards.

We'd also like to congratulate our Sheldon Musicians who performed during the evening: Rex W, Marylou F, Owen G and Ethan G.

Read more about our Awards Evening here







#### **Art Work Collection**

Fine Art and Art, Craft & Design GCSE and A Level candidates (class of 2025) can now collect their coursework, examination sketchbooks and final pieces.

As a centre we have limited access to storage space available to us as a department. We therefore ask for cooperation from those candidates who wish to collect/keep their art work to do so this term.

Unfortunately, any work that has not been collected by December will have to be disposed of to make room for the next cohort of students.

## Science Ambassadors

Congratulations to our newly appointed Y9 Science Ambassadors.

Read more about our Science Ambassadors here



## Hello Yellow Day

Thank you to everyone who dressed up in yellow or wore yellow accessories for World Mental Health Day.

Your support of Hello Yellow shows young people that they are not alone in their mental health.

Right now, the world can be a tough place for children and young people to grow up in, and they're feeling the pressure.

By supporting Hello Yellow, you are helping us raise vital funds for Young Minds to provide resources and support for children and their parents.





### EV Charging Now Available in Car Park

As part of Sheldon's School Climate Action Plan, we have installed six electric vehicle (EV) chargers on the wall at the end of the Sports Hall. These are now available for use by staff, parents and the wider community.

For more information about EV Charging at Sheldon, click here



Read more here



The Friends of Sheldon School manage the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund, a Registered Charity in England and Wales (number 1116688)

#### New Name, Same Great Organisation

The Friends of Sheldon School (FOSS) is the new name for the group of parent volunteers that manage the Student Opportunity Fund. We are a registered charity that raises funds to support enrichment activities in the school. Many of the exciting things that happen at Sheldon are funded by FOSS, including many of the enrichment activities trips and clubs you'll read about in the Sheldon Standard.

There are lots of different ways you can help support FOSS—you can join our fundraising committee and help plan events, support our Spring Raffle, sign up to the Sheldon Lottery, donate via ParentPay or set up a Direct Debit. Your employer may also have a match-giving programme or Benevity fund that could help us raise even more money!

To learn more about the Friends of Sheldon School, click here.

## **Upcoming Events**

#### Sheldon School Raffle — Spring 2026

Look out for more information about our raffle in the new year. We'll start looking for donations for prizes in January, so hold onto any unwanted gifts from Christmas that you may want to pass along as prizes.

If you are associated with any local businesses that would like to donate prizes for our raffle, please get in touch. It's a great way to help the school while advertising your business in our community!

#### Clubbercise — 6 February 2026

Back by popular demand! Roz Chandler is hosting her very popular Clubbercise nights with all proceeds going to Sheldon School. Grab your glowsticks and your friends for a great workout for a great cause.

Clubbercise is a fun full body workout to club classics from the 90's to present day. The routines combine dance, toning and combat moves with options to suit all fitness levels.

This event sold out last year, so get your tickets now!

Clubbercise Night in aid of Sheldon School Friday 6 February 2026 6:30pm-7:30pm Sheldon School Hall





#### **DONATE TODAY!**



**SHELDON LOTTERY** 



**DIRECT DEBIT** 



**PARENT PAY** 



**PAYPAL** 



**EASY FUNDRAISING** 



## Amazing Trips at Home & Abroad

We try to give students incredible opportunities to learn outside the classroom through enrichment activities and learning trips. We've kicked off the year with amazing trips at home and abroad. Thank you to the Friends of Sheldon School for supporting many of these trips.

#### St Omer, France

In July 2025, 40 very excited Year 8 & Year 9 students visited France to learn more about French language and culture.

Read more here



## Berlin, Germany

We took over 30 students in Y11 GCSE History and German classes to Berlin to help support their learning and give them a wider cultural experience.

Read more here



## **Disneyland Paris**

A huge congratulations to all of the talented students who attended the Performing Arts Trip to Disneyland Paris during the October break.

Read more here



## **Bletchley Park**

This is one of our favourite trips and is an excellent opportunity for students to explore codebreaking and mathematics in a vibrant historical context.

Read more here



#### Lacock

A Level Photography students visited Lacock to explore the Fox Talbot Museum documenting the history of photography.

Read more here



#### Lake District

Our 2025 Ten Tors teams headed to the Lake District for five days of trekking and camping to celebrate a year of hard work and incredible achievements.

Read more here



#### Year 7 Camp

At the beginning for Year 7, we spend two days and one night at camp so that our students have a chance to get to know their new classmates and can bond with their tutor group.

Thank you to the staff, Prefects and Sixth Form volunteers that helped organise camp, as well as Sixth Form photography student, Alistair, for his wonderful photography.

Read more here



#### Clubs Fair

We recently held a Clubs Fair for our Year 7 students to show them all the wonderful opportunities available at lunch or after school.

Read more here



## Lego Challenge

Throughout the term, Year 7 students were engaged in a fierce Lego engineering challenge. Congratulations to the team from DME who took home the prize by only a few millimetres!

Read more here





### Year 9 Hands On History Investigations

Year 9 history classes have been learning about the transatlantic traffic of enslaved Africans. To help bring this period to life, we borrowed a box of real and replica artefacts from Bristol M Shed.

Students investigated the objects relating to West African culture, trade links between Europe and Africa, life on plantations and the abolition movement to aid their discussions about this part of our history.

Thank you to the Friends of Sheldon School for supporting this project to bring museum artefacts into the classroom.

Read more here



#### **Litter Picks**

Students in Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) have been volunteering to do litter picks around the school and our surrounding area.

In September, they gave up part of their lunch break to help clean up the Donkey Fields and Hardenhuish Brook area outside our school gates.

Thank you to all the students that volunteered!

Read more here



#### German Exchange Visit

In October, we hosted a group of students from Schiller-Gymnasium Hameln as part of our cultural exchange programme that has existed for over 40 years!

Our Year 9 students welcomed the German visitors with fun and games in the hall, lunch in the Refectory and classic British pub quiz before attending a lesson so that the German students could get a taster of the English education system.



After school, Sheldon students took their new friends into Chippenham for a scavenger hunt around town.

They returned in the evening for a buffet before saying goodbye to the German students as they boarded the coach to head back home.

Funding for the visit was generously provided by UK-German Connection, a bilateral government initiative dedicated to improving contacts and understanding between young people in the UK and Germany.

Read more about the visit here



#### **Pastoral Rewards**

During the last week of term our Pastoral Teams celebrated student achievements through special Halloween themed events including hot chocolates, pumpkin carving and pizza making.

We will be holding special reward events with different activities and award criteria each term to allow as many students as possible to be celebrated. Well done to all the students that were rewarded this term.

Read more here



#### Vincent Van Bot

Our incredible Norbot statue for the Gromit Unleashed Trail to benefit the Bristol Children's Hospital Grand Appeal went on display at Cribbs Causeway last month.

Thank you to our Art Faculty and Student Leadership Team for their hard work in designing the Norbot and helping to raise so much money for the Grand Appeal.

Vincent is now on display in our Art Block for everyone to enjoy!





#### Young Volunteer Award

Congratulations to Chelsea in Y13 for winning Young Volunteer of the Year at the Wiltshire FA Awards for her commitment to refereeing in the local community!



## Sixth Form Open Evening



Thank you to everyone who attended the Sheldon Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 16 October.

We were very pleased to welcome students from over 14 different secondary schools to Sheldon Sixth Form, along with our current Year 11 class.

If you would like to learn more about attending Sheldon Sixth Form, click here

Don't forget to submit your application by 9 January!

## Charity Bike Ride

Huge congratulations to Faye in Sheldon Sixth Form for completing her 108 mile bike ride over the weekend to support Breast Cancer Now.



#### Meeting Martin Parr

While out in Bristol Harbourside working on his documentary photography project inspired by Martin Parr, Dylan encountered the man himself!

Read more here



#### **Berlin Marathon**

Congratulations to Megan for running the Berlin Marathon in support of Alzheimer's Research UK and raising nearly £1500!



#### Halloween Costume Contest

On the last day of term, our Sixth Form students got into the spooky season spirit by dressing up for a Halloween Costume Contest.

Read more here



## Gold DofE Expedition

At the beginning of September, our intrepid group of Sixth Formers headed to Wales for their Gold DofE Qualifying Expedition







#### PE Highlights

We had a strong start to the year with some fantastic results from our sports teams.

Here are the highlights from Term 1



## **Hockey Festival**

In October, we spent the day out on the Astro celebrating hockey!

Our Year 8 girls spent the morning getting specialised coaching with Adam from Chippenham Hockey Club. The girls had a blast and learned lots of new skills through drills and a match.

In the afternoon, our Sports Ambassadors helped support the Primary Quicksticks Festival. As always, they were excellent representatives of the school and we were delighted to see them share their love of the sport to the little ones!

Read more here





## Sheldon Represents at Rugby World Cup

Two members of the Sheldon community were celebrated during the Women's Rugby World Cup in September.

Mrs Brightmore-Back, our PE teacher and former England rugby player, was honoured among all of the other former Red Roses with an amazing



display in London honouring their commitment to the squad and the sport. We're very proud to have her in our faculty, inspiring a new generation of girls (and boys) to love rugby!

Huge congratulations to Mia in Year 11 who performed at the Rugby World Cup final in the Fan Zone and on the pitch at Twickenham!

We're so proud of Mia and delighted that she got to be part of such a fantastic moment in the history of English Rugby!



#### Term 2 Events

Thu 20/11

Y13 Parents' Evening

Mon 01/12

Inset Day (School closed)

Wed 3/12

**Reverse Advent Collection** 

Thu 4/12

**Christmas Concert** 

Wed & Thu 10-11/12

School Production

Alice in Wonderland

Wed 17/12

Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch Sixth Form Carol Service

Fri 19/12

Last Day of Term (close at 12:35)

#### Term 3 Events

Mon 05/01

Term 3 Begins Inset Day Y11 Parents' Evening

Thu 08/01

Sixth Form Reunion

12-16/01

Pencelli Trip

Thu 22/01

**Y9 Options Evening** 

Tue 27/01

Y9 Parents' Evening

26/01-06/02

Y11 & Y13 Mocks Week



#### Don't Forget...