

Issue 24

Summer Term 1 2024



### **Message from Dr Bartlett**

Dear Parent/Carers;

It has been a busy half term and we are incredibly proud of how our year 11 students have approached their exams.

We celebrated mental health day on the 24<sup>th</sup> May with 'Wear it Green' emphasising the importance of well being, mental health and a positive mindset. We achieved the United Against Bullying Gold Award from the Anti-Bullying Alliance, being one of the few schools in the country to have received this award. Bullying happens everywhere and in every school and it is how we address and support our students that is so critical to supporting their well

being and mental health.

Our sporting teams continue to achieve great success and we are very proud of our sports mentors who are supporting others and take pride in their role. On 9th May we launched our Duke of Edinburgh award and are supporting our students with their expedition.

We welcomed back the amazing Miss Youn from maternity leave and she has already launched her enrichment programme for students which is a wonderful opportunity for our young people. We hope you have had chance to read our new curriculum newsletter where we share with you the curriculum updates and images of the amazing work from our students in each area.

We wish you a lovely break and we look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 3rd June 2024.

Please encourage year 11 to continue their revision.

Dr Bartlett Regional Executive Headteacher



## Spotlight on Mental Health "Mental Health Matters"

Our vision is to ensure all stakeholders have the skills and environment to thrive. We put mental health and well being at the heart of everything we do.

On the last day of term, we had a non-uniform day, where we encouraged all of our students and staff to wear something green in aid of Mental Health Awareness week. Students were asked to donate £1, with all monies raised going towards community projects.

# **Building Futures. Changing Lives.**

# Spotlight on Safeguarding

Here at Shenley Academy we are committed to helping students and parents alike with any safeguarding or wellbeing need that might present, and one area that sometimes can be a taboo for some families to speak about, or ask for help for, is periods.

We are aware that the cost of sanitary products can be a drain on already tight finances, and we truly believe that no girl or woman should ever be faced with the difficult situation of managing their periods and not having the right resources or access to do so.

For that reason, we have created Shenley Packs: if you're in need of sanitary wear, please call, email or ask any member of staff for a Shenley Pack, and without any embarrassing conversations, they will contact the Safeguarding Team and we will provide you with a variety of sanitary wear, from disposable to re-usable, tampons and pads to pants... whatever you need, we have you covered.

All you need to do is pop a carrier bag into reception, or with your child, and one of the team will discreetly gain the items and give them to the student at the end of the day, or back to you if you happen to ask when you're on site with us. If it's easier, the student can come to Safeguarding before or after school, break or lunch and they can come with us to gain the products and put them directly into their own school bags for privacy.

We hope you'll reach out to us and accept these basic essentials for your daughters, siblings, aunts, mums and wider females in your family.

### Pastoral Support Team

Assistant Headteachers—Progress Leaders

/Pastoral Support Managers				
Year 7	Mrs Rowell/Miss Callum			
Year 8	Mr Copson/Miss Lewin			
Year 9	Mr Copson/Mrs Martin			
Year 10	Miss Stevenson/Miss Evans			
Year 11	Mr Jacobs			
Safeguarding				
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr Ward			
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Nikolaidis & Mrs Kent			
Mental Health				
Mental Health Lead	Mrs Nikolaidis			

#### **REMINDER!**

We send weekly safeguarding announcements with key tips, information and advise on a range of safeguarding topics on Class Charts

### **Talking Periods:**

It can be really hard to broach the topic of periods with your child, and we're always happy to help with this, but we've popped some useful websites below that we hope will help in easing these conversations

- <u>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/periods/starting-periods/#:~:text=Try%20to%20talk%20about%</u>
  <u>20periods,language%2C%20like%20%22vagina%22</u>.
- <u>https://www.always.co.uk/en-gb/tips-and-advice-for-girls-and-parents/parents-and-carers/how-to-talk-to-your-son-about-periods-and-puberty/</u>
- <u>https://www.mooncup.co.uk/blog/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-periods/</u>
- <u>https://www.bodyform.co.uk/break-taboos/discover/puberty/preparing-daughters-first-period/</u>

If you have any other worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us here at Shenley Academy Safeguarding.

# Spotlight on Sextortion

#### What is Sextortion?

Victims of the blackmail threats might know the perpetrator. However, they can also be a stranger. The perpetrator might demand that the victim share more images or send money.

Sextortion scams usually fall into these two categories:

- Image sextortion: the purpose of the extortion is to obtain indecent images of an individual;
- **Financial sextortion:** the purpose is to gain financially. With financial sextortion, victims pay money to stop the perpetrator from sharing images more widely.

### How does it impact victims?

Sextortion is illegal and very distressing for the victim. Those behind it (often criminal gangs) prey on these feelings; perpetrators know that victims will feel this way.

In some cases, victims also worry about having their intimate images or videos shared more widely. As a result, they feel scared and might do things they do not want to do.

Additionally, many children and young people feel embarrassed and ashamed if they fall victim to sextortion. So, they will often keep the abuse to themselves. This can lead to further impacts on their wellbeing.

### What are the warning signs?

Remember that in some sextortion scams, children and young people believe the perpetrator is someone their own age. They will genuinely believe they are talking to someone who is interested in them and who wants to get into a relationship with them.

Parents need to think back to when they were this age. Did they tell their parents everything that they did with their partner at the time, particularly sexual things?

The following changes in your child could suggest they have experienced online sexual coercion or extortion. However, it's important to recognise that some of these signs could relate to other changes.

- Your child might appear withdrawn, worried or unhappy compared to their normal.
- They might stop using their phone or mobile device. Or, they might seem worried when a message appears.
- Apps that they love might become sources of anxiety. As such, they might stop using those platforms. Sextortion can happen on any platform where users communicate with others.

Some additional signs might resemble those that also come with child-on-child abuse or grooming.

### How to help children and young people?

Parents and carers need to recognise just how embarrassing and shaming sextortion can feel for young people.

As such, they will often struggle to admit they have shared nude images with someone who took advantage of them. Again, those behind the scams know this. As such, if your child has told you that this has happened then that is a massive first step.

If a child or young person tells you about an incident of coercion, remember they are a victim of a crime. Often, victims don't report sextortion crimes. Additionally, extreme cases have led to children and young people <u>taking their own lives</u>. So, reassure them that you are there to help.

(<u>Source</u>)

# **Shenley goes for GOLD!**

At Shenley Academy we strongly believe in a zero tolerance to any bullying. We have worked tirelessly with staff to deal, record and support if they are concerned. We have educated our students on what bullying is and work closely with them to support them, using their voice as a key way to move forward.

Our ambassadors have worked hard to ensure and support to understand what bullying is through the charter:

- 1) Bullying is the intentional physical, verbal or psychological harm in person or online.
- 2) Bullying can include a power imbalance
- 3) Bullying can be discrete—it can sometimes be hidden under "banter"
- 4) Know what STOP means (Several, Times, On, Purpose)
- 5) Think before you speak
- 6) Think about the consequences
- 7) If you are experiencing or witnessing bullying, speak out. Come out of the shadows—don't stay silent.
- 8) If you see it, report it
- 9) Bystanders are just as bad as bullies
- 10) Pay close attention—ask someone if they are upset, notice all signs, are they acting differently?
- 11) You always have someone to talk to
- 12) You may not think it, but you are NOT alone.



#### Message from Anti-Bullying Alliance:

We were completely blown away by the amount of work done by schools to reduce bullying and improve wellbeing for pupils and I'm delighted to announce that we're awarding you **United Against Bullying GOLD** School status - congratulations! This is not an easy award programme and you should be incredibly proud of what you have achieved! For context, we had 296 schools complete the programme with 11% achieving Gold, 24% Silver, and 55% Bronze.



#### Where can you report bullying?

- Any member of staff
- Your form tutor
- Your PSM
- Your Head of Year
- Your SLT Link
- Using our Anti-Bullying post boxes
- SHARP System.

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Don't Suff Silence, M Report.		thesharpsys	stem	16
	Hi and welcome to your SHARP (Sc Academy.	hool Help Advice Repo	xting Page) rep	ort for Sheriley
Shenley	If you wish to contact Miss Stevens please follow on and fill in the form; to			

Mr Ward Assistant Headteacher

# Spotlight on Reading Raffle

As we kick off a new term, we have introduced an exciting new initiative—The Reading Raffle.

The raffle is open to all year groups, and aims to encourage and celebrate reading habits amongst our students. We thoroughly believe that fostering a love of reading is essential in achieving academic success and personal growth.

How it works:

Each student who participates will have the chance to win fantastic prizes.

To enter, all they need to do is read a book of their choice, so long as it fits within the categories in the raffle boxes (see below). Once students have read four books, they will be entered into the raffle. The more they read, the more entries they will have, increasing their chances of winning!



Spotlight on Sport Mentorship Programme

The football mentorship programme has become really popular amongst students. Students are expressing their thirst and desire for Monday nights and have massively had positive feedback around school getting several key sporting values signed off.



" I enjoy when we all play football and chat and when sir makes sure our behaviour is good"



"It helps with my mental focus and control"



"It is really fun and we get to play lots of different games"

# Spotlight on Extra Curricular Activities

#### **X-Band vs Y-Band football matches**

#### Year 9

The year 9 boys had been buzzing for this fixture for a while.

While there was no bad blood between a great group of players, everyone who played was in it to win it. X band dominated the first 20 minutes with a 3-0 lead. Oliver prentice leading the line at the back and Justin Summers tearing up the defence. Y band missed Luke Smith who had sadly injured himself in the lesson prior to the match. Rio Vaughan with a screamer from outside the box to make it 3-1. A clumsy hand ball and Marcus Williams made it 3-2.



Y band pushed on for an equaliser but could not keep out another goal. With the score at 4-2 Marcus Williams infamously scored a hand of god goal where the referee and VAR were tricked.

The match finished 5-3 and everyone was in great sports. A truly great spectacle of talented footballers who have a great few years left ahead of them.



The year 7s had an amazing day of football.

A huge number of students had arrived for football with over 35 students willing to represent their respective bands. It was however a strong performance from X band who claimed a strong 5-0 win over Y band.

Year 7

The year group have been at the heart of football since January with double figures arriving to every practice. If I could add their names to this list I would. Very well-done year 7 and great future heading into year 8.

#### **Year 10**

The year 10 X band Vs Y band match was played under the scorching sun, with both teams in high spirits. Y Band took an early lead with Riyadh opening the lead. Tobias also impressed with the another 2 goals.

Trailing by 3 goals, X band finally decided to make a comeback with Lucas Campbell closing the first half with a crisp top bins finish ending the half at 4-2 to Y band. After half time Temi scored a goal to make it 4-3 and X band really started to make a push for the equaliser.

However Y band inspired by some great saves from Brendan Deakin proved to be strong. With the match ending 8-3 to Y band. Great effort by all those involved.



Mr Dubb PE Teacher





We welcomed Miss Youn back from maternity leave this term, who has been quick to reinstate our different music clubs back into our Extra Curricular programme. These clubs have been highly successful with our students, from those who have been playing their instrument for years, to those who wanted to give something new a try, everyone is welcome to drop in and have a go and perform together.

Mr Horton also stopped by to join in the fun, leading a guitar session with some our students, it was lovely see that student-teacher relationship develop away from the classroom and be developed through a shared love of music.

Students will also be given the chance to perform at the beginning of assemblies. This will do wonders for their confidence and embrace their passion in front of their peers, whilst encouraging a positive start to every day for all of our students.

We have a different music club after school Monday-Thursday every week, there really is something for everyone!



Day	Club	Time
Monday	Piano Club	3:00pm—4:00pm
Tuesday	Guitar Club	3:00pm—4:00pm
Wednesday	Drumming Club	3:00pm—4:00pm
Thursday	Shenley Orchestra	3:00pm—4:00pm

# Spotlight on Duke of Edinburgh Award

On Thursday 9th May 2024, we officially launched this year's Duke of Edinburgh award. We held a highly successful information evening, in which parents and student attended with any questions they may have had, and learn about what has been planned for this year's expedition. This is always a very popular section of the programme, and one that students always look forward to the most.





This year, our students will be spending a week camping at Hardhurst Farm in the Peak District, where they will taught some important survival skills such as, first aid, camp-making, field-craft and cooking. We have visited Hardhurst farm in previous years, and will be working with Trekco, who have years of experience running successful expeditions, whom we are sure that they will once again have a jam-packed schedule for our students.

This has been highly successful in previous years, and we can't wait to hear all about how they got on in next term's issue of Spotlight. In the meantime, we're looking forward to finding out all about the exciting activities that the

group are working on for their Skill, Physical and volunteering sections.

# Spotlight on Shenley Stars

#### "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss you'll land among the stars." - Les Brown

Students have been working incredibly hard in lesson and this has been recognised through our Wildly Important Goal initiative. Teachers have been focusing on the positives both in and out of lesson and students have been rewarded with golden tickets.









#### Ahmed Fuah—7A

- 1060 positive achievement points
- Excellent communication skills
- Always contributing in lessons and trying his hardest to answer questions

#### YEAR 8—Star of the Term

#### Antonia Castro-8E

- 591 positive achievement points
- Moved from another country and settled with ease
- Engages in lessons and is an absolute delight

#### YEAR 9—Star of the Term

#### Alfie Abbott—9D

611 positive achievement points 98.6% attendance Always polite around the academy and tries his best in lessons

#### YEAR 10—Star of the Term

#### Louie Millard—10C

- 165 positive achievement points, most improved student in the year
- Excellent effort and improvement in Maths
- Working hard to build positive relationships with staff



mpes

#### YEAR 11—Star of the Term

#### Ellie McIntosh

- 304 positive achievement points
- Consistently positive in her approach to learning
- Is an absolute pleasure to have in the year group











# Special mention to the following students:

#### Year 8

- \* Sam Bornag Most improved student
- \* **Van Hei**—An outstanding student all round
- \* Billy Plimmer— Excellent contribution to lessons
- \* Cdith Pratt—Excellent behaviour

#### Year 9

- \* Gabri Cucchi—An outstanding all round student with beautiful manners
- \* Fatima Par— Grown in confidence and applying herself in lesson
- \* Mehnaz Haider—Very polite and hardworking
- \* Alfie-Jay Hudson—Helpful and an excellent role model

#### Year 10

- \* Jessica Ramsy—Consistently hardworking
- \* Klaudia Kozlowska—Goes above and beyond both in and outside of school
- \* Gypsy McCrea—Outstanding effort across all lessons
- \* Locxi Hawker—Improved effort in lessons

#### Year 11

- \* Saffiyah Said—Improvement in attitude and approach to learning. Amazing efforts in English and Design Technology
- \* Lanlan Fu—For not being at all phased by exam stresses and continuing to be an absolute credit to the school
- \* Kane Mahood—Outstanding work ethic, teachers are noticing your efforts outside of school well done!
- \* George Marin—Outstanding work throughout the year in all of your subjects and exceptional behaviour
- \* Carrigan Dempster-Jones—Always brings the positive vibes, we can tell you are really trying your best. Keep it up!

#### There are still prizes to be won, and we are celebrating this fortnightly.

Well done to everyone!

# Spotlight on Careers

### **Future Friday Employer encounters**

This half term we hosted a number of guest speakers during our Future Friday employer sessions. Some year 10 students heard about careers in audit, tax and consulting form RSM UK. Mrs Murphy and Miss Mendonca's form groups heard about careers in transport from the Midlands Metro Alliance and West Midlands trains. Students found out about different careers and pathways including apprenticeships and graduate schemes.











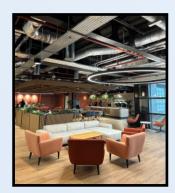
# Visit to JLL office

This term, a group of year 9 students visited JLL's brand new sustainable office in Birmingham city centre. JLL is a global property services company with over 100,000 employees around the world and the visit was organised with our partnership with the WWF (World wildlife fund for nature). Students met with a range of employees including apprentices, graduates and directors and had the chance to find out about the different roles at JLL and the different pathways to careers in property. Students had a tour of the brand new office and then worked on a sustainability project that involved designing their



very own sustainable office.

Students developed their transferable skills by working together as a team to create their design and then presented their design to the group. They had a great experience of JLL's workplace and both JLL and WWF were very impressed by the attitude of our students and the effort they put into designing their own offices.







## **Post 16 Open Events**

College	Date	Times
<u>Birmingham</u> Metropolitan College	Saturday 15th June 2024	10:00am-2:00pm
South and City College	Saturday 15th June 2024	10:00am-3:00pm

# Spotlight on SEND



"This term we have welcomed Ms Roberts to our wonderful inclusion team. Students have made her feel so welcome and she is working with students in small group intervention as well as teaching English.

We are so proud of year 11 and all the resilience and ambition they are showing during the exam season. It is such a pleasure to be able to support them through and see the impressive young adults they are becoming. Our revision and breakfast sessions first thing in the morning are very positive and our students are empowering each other to succeed.

# **The Empower Launch**

This term, a group of five students have been invited to join the launch of Empower at Shenley Academy. Empower comprises of ten sessions exploring topics which are designed to get you thinking! These topics include the role that AI plays in a modern society, how to spot fake news online, and how to express your views of the world in a positive way.

In our first session, each student was given the opportunity to choose a book which resonated with them as a welcome gift to the programme. One student has informed me that they got stuck straight into reading that weekend, and that they are really enjoying the book they have chosen! Once our welcome books had found their new forever homes, we got started with our first big question...



# *"If you could have an AI assistant to help you with one thing in your life, what task would you give it?"*

Some students jumped straight to homework (better luck next time!) whilst others went down the house chores route. We then explored why these are the tasks we would most likely want to avoid, and how we could make them a little more enjoyable! Maybe stick some tunes on, complete your homework in your favourite place of the house, or reward yourself with a small treat after your task is completed! Which tasks would you designate to your new robot friend?



Our second session was all about the Willy Wonka experience in Glasgow! As a group, we investigated how to spot the false advertisements which were shared for the event, as we uncovered the truth about what the magical Willy Wonka experience really entailed... a dingy room with a quarter cup of lemonade and a singular jelly bean. This was a brilliant opportunity to discuss healthy ways to handle disappointment, and the group's brilliant responses certainly didn't leave me feeling disappointed!

When asked what he thought of the programme so far, one student described it as 'amazing!', with every single attendee getting involved in discussions and actively taking part. I can't wait to continue debating the world we live in with our fabulous empower team!

Miss Roberts SEMH Lead for Inclusion provision

# Spotlight on Specialised GCSE provision



On Friday 19th April and Monday 22nd April, a number of our Year 11 students were chosen to attend a specialised GCSE Statistics conference led by our very own Dr Bartlett. Students were taken to Villa Park, and spent the day in their prestigious conference suite, working with their peers from 8 different E-ACT secondary academies from across the region.

The conference was specifically designed for students who were preparing for their GCSE Statistics examination, and aimed to

provide some hands-on-experiences with real-world data to enhance not only their understanding of the subject, but also their application of statistical concepts.

Each day was a huge success, with students agreeing that the day had been highly beneficial for them in the lead up to their exams, and spoke positively about their experience and what they had learnt.



# Spotlight on Science



This term, we have embarked upon a journey of exploration and discovery in the realm of science. From the intricacies of biology to the wonders of physics and chemistry, this term presents an exciting opportunity for students to delve deeper into the mysteries of the natural world.

Through hands-on experiments, interactive demonstrations, and engaging discussions, we aim to ignite the spark of curiosity within our students and nurture their passion for scientific inquiry. Whether it's exploring the complexities or ecosystems, conducting experiments in the laboratory, or unravelling the mysteries of the cosmos, there is a wealth of knowledge waiting to be discovered.

#### Fostering Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills

In the ever changing landscape of science, critical thinking and problem-solving skills are essential tools for success. This term, we challenged our students to think critically, analyse data, and apply scientific principles to real-world problems.

Through inquiry-based learning and collaborative projects, students had the opportunity to develop their problemsolving abilities and apply their knowledge to address pressing issues facing our society today. Whether it's tackling environmental challenges, exploring the frontiers of technology, or understanding the impact of scientific innovations, our students emerged as confident, analytical thinkers ready to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

#### **Inspiring the Scientists of tomorrow**

We are committed to inspiring the scientists of tomorrow, through engaging lessons, inspirational role models, and hands-on experiences, we aim to ignite a passion for science that will propel our students towards exciting future careers in STEM fields.

We encourage all of our students to think big, think creatively and pursue their interests in science with enthusiasm and determination. Whether it's conducting ground-breaking research, inventing new technologies or making discoveries that change the world, the possibilities are endless for those who dare to explore the wonders of science.

Mr Khan Teacher of Science

# Spotlight on Attendance

### **Attendance Matters**

### Well done, and thank you to all those students who have 100% attendance at the academy so far this year.

Attendance is one of the biggest factors deciding student success in school. Year on year, students who are in school with over 95% attendance achieve better grades and prepare themselves better for their future. We want every student at Shenley Academy to fall into this category and we don't want anyone to be left behind. We will be monitoring attendance closely again this term, and will be sending fortnightly updates in regards to your child's absence.

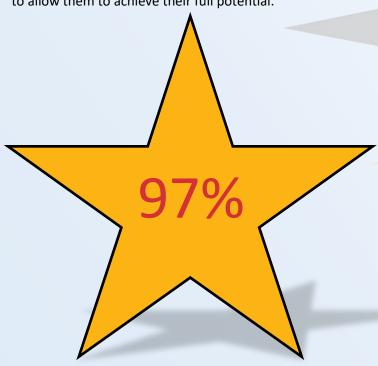
### The Importance of Punctuality

Punctuality is crucial to ensuring that your child's day at school starts smoothly and that they are in the right mindset to start learning and working hard.

The academy gates open at 8:15am and form time starts at 8:35am.

Late arrival is between 8:40 and 9:00am.

Arrival after 9:00am is recorded as unauthorised and will adversely affect your child's attendance record and achievement levels. Please support your child to develop lifelong habits of good attendance and punctuality in order to allow them to achieve their full potential.





### **Medical Appointments**

We request that, where possible, routine medical and dental appointments are arranged outside of academy hours as these appointments will affect your child's percentage attendance. We do understand that some appointments, such as hospital consultations are not always possible to arrange outside of academy hours. However, if your appointment time allows your child to come into the Academy for registration and then leave later this will have a positive impact on their attendance figure. Likewise, if they are able to be back at the academy for afternoon registration—12:20pm this will also have a positive impact.

### **Important Reminders**

If your child is too ill to attend the academy please contact the school attendance office before 9:00am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. If we do no hear from you, we will call you to find out why your child is not at the academy. If your child is absent from the academy for any reason they should not be outside of the academy at the end of the day meeting friends. Thank you for your support in helping to raise the academy's attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance of punctuality, please contact your child's pastoral support manager.

# **The Shenley Safeguarding Team**

### **Safeguarding Team**

### "If you need to talk, we are always here!"-

Shenley Academy is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.

### Safeguarding Leads



Dr J Bartlett Executive Headteacher DSL trained

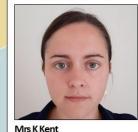


Mr A Ward Assistant Headteacher Designated Safeguarding Lead

### Safeguarding Officers



Mrs E Nikolaidis Deputy DSL



enley

Deputy DSL



Mrs E Housden Deputy Headteacher



Miss E Stevenson Assistant Headteacher: Progress Leader



Mr D Thacker-Smith Deputy Headteacher



Ms L Rowell Assistant Headteacher: Progress Leader



Mr R Evans Pastoral Lead





Mr R Jacobs Pastoral Lead



Miss M Hands Associate Assistant Headteacher



Mr B Monaghan Welfare Liasion Officer



Associate Assistant Headteacher:



Mrs M Tuckley Headteacher's PA

#### The academy supports all children by:

- Establishing a caring, safe and positive environment within the academy
- Responding to concerns for a child in a timely and effective manner
- Effectively tackling child-on-child abuse
- Supporting mental health and wellbeing
- Promoting British Values across the Academy

Mr R Jacobs Pastoral Lea