



Dear families,

Thank you for your ongoing work with us as valued members of the Sheffield Park Academy community. Our Academy Character Values remain at the very centre of our work for your children - **Community**, **Ambition**, **Respect** and **Endurance**.

Kind Regards,
Rob Watson

A Great Return to School Week!

- We have been so impressed by students this past week - and excellent return to school!
- We are pleased that lots and lots of students have already begun to improve their attendance as well - the increase in students attending school in this first week compared to the same week last year has been lovely to see.
- We know that attendance:
 - Makes children feel they **'belong'** to their school more.
 - Gives children a better chance of academic success - our Year 11s last year who had over 90% attendance gained excellent GCSE outcomes (far above national averages).
 - Helps children build stronger **friendships** over time.
 - Really helps children with Special Educational Needs greatly - they thrive by coming to school more.



Year 11, Year 11, Year 11

Year 11 Success Evening 1 - Thursday 17 September - 4pm - EVERY Year 11 needs to attend, parents/ carers are encouraged also!

- **Why?**
 - Get more marks in mocks by coming.
 - Get KEY info and revision items for the November mocks.
 - Gain confidence by attending - LOTS of hints and tips about mock content.
 - FREE revision backpack containing revision materials!
- **What else?**
 - AFTER SCHOOL Success Sessions start this week - all year 11 must attend these
 - Why?
 - Extra help
 - Extra revision
 - Gain extra marks

- Gain better grades
- Expert teachers in the room
- Tuition like this normally costs £45 p/hour - this is FREE help and our teaching staff are doing this voluntarily.

Year 11s who attend well, do well - last year Y11s who had 90% attendance or better achieved well ABOVE national GCSE averages.



Year 6 Open Evening

- A reminder of this important event on **Thursday 8 October 2026**
- **The academy will close early to students at the start of lunchtime - 1.15pm - to allow for preparations to the building to take place.**
- If you or people you know in your community have Year 6 students, please tell them about this event!
- Everyone is welcome! Come and see our BRILLIANT new 'look and feel' inside the school!

If you are planning to attend, please help us by completing this short form -

[Sheffield Park Academy - Y6 Open Evening Tickets, Thursday, October 8 • 3:45 PM - 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)



Homework

- Homework has been set for students already.
- **Our systems are simple and require students to complete 100% of homework.**
- We offer a 'support club' for students who do not complete 100% of homework.
- Homework is set on a different day each for science, English, and maths for ALL year groups. It is due 100% complete on the same day the following week.
- The table below shows how it works - as ever, please do contact school to ask for extra support if your child needs this.

Subject	Online Platform	Day homework set	Day homework due	20-minute Homework Support	40-minute detention if support missed
Science	All year groups: Sparx	Monday	Following Monday, 9:00am	Tuesday	Wednesday
English	Year 7-9: Sparx Year 10-11: Seneca	Tuesday	Following Tuesday, 9:00am	Wednesday	Thursday
Maths	All year groups: Sparx	Wednesday	Following Wednesday, 9:00am	Thursday	Friday

Extra-curricular Options Starting

- **Extra curricular sign up has started!**
- We have LOTS of clubs this year - everything from dance, chess club, Dungeons and Dragons, music and band club, and chemistry club, to football, gymnastics, netball, and many more!
- These are offered for **FREE** - our staff voluntarily run these to help SPA children and we love it when lots of students take up this offer.



Equipment and Uniform

As we move into week 3 of term, equipment and uniform remain crucial to students' success. All details are on our website, as ever: [Sheffield Park Academy > Information > Uniform](#)

- We ask families to:
 - Check your child has all equipment before they leave the home each morning.
 - Check your child is wearing all uniform before they leave the home each morning.
 - Check your child has completed all homework - 100% - before they leave the home each morning.

Social Media Platforms

- We have really strong social media platform messages - we regularly post reminders, important info, and exciting messages on our platforms - we mainly use Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn.
- Please do follow us on one of these or more to keep in touch we things that are happening.



- **Additionally, a reminder to download and use the Arbor app:** [The Arbor App](#)



- Get key messages from school.
- See your child's timetable.
- See your child's behaviour points.
- See any detentions that may be on your child's account.

Mobile Phones

- A reminder that mobile phones are not permitted to be used by students in school.
- This is in line with Department for Education guidance
 - All mobile phones must be 'switched off and in bags' before entering the main gates of school each day
 - All mobile phones must remain away, switched off, and never used during the school day
 - At the end of each day:
 - Phones cannot be 'seen, used or heard' until:
 - Students are outside the Prince of Wales gates or at the green gates at the top of the student steps near the main hall.
 - If a student has their phone in their hand in the yards on leaving school, this will be confiscated.
 - If a phone is 'seen, used, or heard':
 - It is confiscated and it is locked in our reception safely.
 - Parent or carer must collect - we do not hand phones back to students when confiscated
 - Why?
 - Our students do not need mobile phones during the school day.
 - If you need to contact your child urgently, please contact school first and we will get any key messages to them.
 - Students at SPA are great at talking to their friends and staff - this is because we don't have devices to distract us.
 - We want to protect students from being distracted by phones during their learning.
 - It helps students learn great social skills to not look at a phone during the day.

A reminder that the social media ban for under 16s is due to come in in the UK in 2027: [Social media to be banned for under-16s in landmark government move to give kids their childhood back - GOV.UK](#)