

Dear Families

I thought it would be timely to outline some of the changes that have seen improvement within school since Ofsted arrived in January 2024.

Curriculum and Teaching Improvements: The school has restructured its curriculum to be more ambitious and better aligned with the key knowledge students need to succeed. This restructuring aims to address gaps in student learning and ensure a more consistent educational experience. Teachers are working on refining their methods to better identify and address these gaps.

Behaviour and Attitudes: There have been positive changes in the school's approach to behaviour management. New routines and clearer expectations have been introduced, leading to better behaviour in many areas of the school.

Support for Students: The school has made strides in supporting pupils and specifically pupils who struggle with reading.

Efforts are being made to accurately identify the needs of these students and provide appropriate interventions. The effectiveness of these interventions has improved, and the school is working on ensuring that all pupils receive the support they need.

Leadership and Management: Leadership at Shrewsbury Academy is focused on realising the Trust's mission of "achievement through caring". Staff are dedicated to creating a supportive environment, and there is a clear ambition for all pupils to succeed. GCSE outcomes have shifted significantly, there has been a tremendous improvement here, SA has made more improvement than any other local school.

We are committed to making further improvements, but it is fair to say standards are improving significantly.

Jim Taylor

Headteacher



VOICE

Over the next three weeks, your child will have the opportunity to participate in a student voice questionnaire for Shrewsbury Academy. Students in Years 7, 8, and 9 will complete the questionnaire during their ICT lessons, while students in Years 10 and 11 will do so during their English lessons.

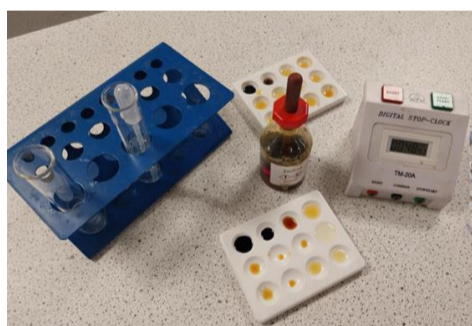
Please encourage your child to participate in these questionnaires, as their voices are an important part of shaping the future of our school.

Thank you for your support.



Science Required Practicals

GCSE science practical's are experiments that help students develop practical skills and knowledge. They often involve using specific equipment and techniques. Questions about required practicals frequently feature in GCSE exams. Here are Year 10 completing the biology required practical investigating the optimal pH for the enzyme amylase. Amylase is found in saliva and helps break down starch, a carbohydrate found in foods like rice and potatoes into simpler sugars. This explains why bread and pasta start to taste sweet after we have chewed them for a while and mixed them with our saliva. These will be the last round of GCSE practicals completed before the Science team occupy their new purpose built Science labs opening after the Easter Break, I think everyone is excited about this!



STEAM this Half Term.



Tuesday 25th Feb with JAL – Once you pop, you can't stop! Learn about polymers and find out what you can do with balloons, cooking skewers & nerves of steel!

[Love loud bangs? Train as a pyrotechnic firer & work staging pyrotechnic shows for large gatherings.](#)

Tuesday 4th March with JAL – Hapus Dewi Sant! Celebrate St David's Day this week with Welsh & Wordsworth, flame testing daffodils & turning them black and blue with transpiration trickery! [Loved this? Floriculture \(studying/cultivating plants\) could be for you!](#)

Tuesday 11th March with JAL – A break in – blimey! Fabulous forensics. Be a science super sleuth and solve the crime. [Study forensic science – an amazing & interesting undergraduate degree available at 271 universities & colleges.](#)

Tuesday 18th March with JAL – Be a groovy "geyser" with skateboard rocket cars!

Tuesday 25th March with VMO – Science in the balance - dripping candle see [SAWS](#). [Study the science of balance where opposing forces are in equilibrium, resulting in a stable state!](#)

Tuesday 1st April VMO – PVA polymers = time for slime! [Believe it or not there are actually jobs formulating, testing and making slime! I want that job!](#)

[Tuesday 8th April – No STEAM Club \(move to new STEM building – how exciting!\).](#)

SA Media Team

This week saw our newly created media team begin work to find ways to engage and collaborate with parents, governors, and other students via different media methods. They engaged brilliantly well at our Trust Central offices working with the Chamber of Commerce and other students from other Trust schools. Their work will positively influence our communication in the future and they will soon be linking in with our student council to develop their ideas further as well as engaging in further collaboration events.



Shrewsbury Academy Part of the Marches Academy Trust

Shrewsbury Academy Spotlight – Relentless Ambition

Attendance Matters

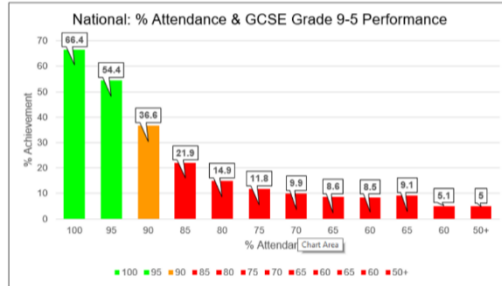
Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life. The aim should be to attend 100% of the time and parents can closely monitor this through the Arbor App. Guidance says we can no longer authorise absence for holidays etc. Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Good attendance also shows potential employers that a young person is reliable.

Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime.

Attendance	Category	Days Absent	Achievement
100%	Perfect	0 Days off school	Excellent chance to achieve Grades 9-5
99%	Excellent	Equates to 2 days off school	
97%	Very Good	Equates to 5 days off school	
95%	Good	Equates to 10 days off school	Significantly reduced chance to achieve Grades 9-5
92%	Concerned	Equates to 15 days off school	
90%	Very Concerned	Equates to 20 days off school	Extremely limited chance to achieve Grades 9-5
85%	Serious Concern	Equates to 30 days off school	
80%	Court Action	Equates to 40 days off school	

175 NON SCHOOL DAY A YEAR

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments.



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Student Support Queries

If you have concerns regarding a student's learning needs, would like to request additional support/advice please complete the internal SEND referral form and send it to the following email address: sendadmin@shr.mmat.co.uk. Our Student Support Department are now based in the Hub area of the Haughmond Building, taking advantage of their new amazing facilities, life skills cooking area, and outdoor learning spaces. The entrance is off **East Crescent** on the South side of the campus.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Information

shrewsburyacademy.co.uk



Some of our students have **severe allergies**. Please respect our drive to be a 'nut free school.' Always leave snacks and foods containing nuts at home.

ROYAL AIR FORCE
REGULAR & RESERVE

NO ORDINARY JOB

FIND YOUR APPRENTICESHIP

The RAF is honoured and delighted to share the news that the Department of Education has officially recognised and ranked the RAF as number 4 in the top 100 Apprenticeship Employers 2024.

We offer Apprenticeships in the following roles:

- ENGINEERING**: Aircraft Technician (Avionics), Aircraft Technician (Mechanical), Weapon Technician, Electrician, Survival Equipment Specialist, Vehicle & Mechanical Equipment Technician, General Technician Workshop
- CYBERSPACE**: Communications Infrastructure Technician, Cyberspace Communication Specialist
- LOGISTICS**: Driver, Supplier, Air & Ground Steward
- AIR & SPACE OPERATIONS**: Air Traffic and Weapons Controller, Firefighter
- SECURITY & RESILIENCE**: RAF Police, RAF Regiment Gunner

MEDICAL SERVICES: RAF Medics
INTELLIGENCE: Intelligence Analyst
PEOPLE OPERATIONS: Physical Training Instructor

To find out more about how we can help your students into an apprenticeship please contact our team on:
Email: CRN-CareersEngageMids@mod.gov.uk

Apprenticeships Top 100 Employers 2024

Download our App to find out more about a career in the Royal Air Force

Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment

- Sinusitis** (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- Sore throat** (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- Earache** (adults and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- Infected insect bite** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Impetigo** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Shingles** (adults aged 18 years and over)
- Urinary tract infection** (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service

Visit your Pharmacy First!

*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied

Become a Junior Ambassador



Are you?

- ✓ Aged between 13-17
- ✓ Confident and Outgoing
- ✓ Interested in meeting people from around the world

Why Join?

- FREE Trips to Liverpool, Manchester, Alton Towers and many more....
- Join our discos and sports days at Shrewsbury School.
- Gain new skills and great life experiences.

equiry@severnvale.co.uk 01743 232505
www.severnvale.co.uk

To Become an Ambassador please register through our website, email or by clicking **JOIN NOW**.

Please note that all excursions and on-site activities are subject to availability and that on some excursions places may be limited.

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.



Why not also follow us on Facebook @[ShrewsburyAcademy](#) for a wealth of content, from student, staff and school celebrations, to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow @[MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

Want to work for the Marches Multi Academy trust? Follow the link below:
<https://www.marchesacademytrust.co.uk/joining-us/how-to-join>



Shrewsbury Academy, Corndon Crescent, Shrewsbury, SY1 4LL
01743 276700
info@shr.mmat.co.uk
shrewsburyacademy.co.uk

