

Shirebrook Academy

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Striving for **Excellence**
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CEO: Rebecca Scutt BSc (Hons), PGCE

Ref: NewSep26-27

13th July 2026

New academic year arrangements – September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

This letter gives details regarding arrangements for the new academic year in 2026-27. Prior to giving details, we would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thank you to you and your families for the support that you have given this academic year – it truly makes all the difference. Our young people are attending, learning and achieving more successfully as each year passes and this is a consequence of continued partnership working and shared belief in their abilities and efforts.

Arrangements for 2026-27

1. Structure of the academy day

There are no changes to the structure of the academy day at Shirebrook Academy for September 2026, and this remains:

08.30 – 09.30	Period 1
09.30 – 10.30	Period 2
10.30 – 10.50	Break
10.55 – 11.55	Period 3
11.55 – 12.25	Tutor Time KS3 (7, 8 and 9)
11.55 – 12.25	Lunch 1 KS4 (10 and 11)
12.25 – 12.55	Tutor Time KS4 (10 and 11)
12.25 – 12.55	Lunch 2 KS3 (7, 8 and 9)
1.00 – 2.00	Period 4
2.00 – 3.00	Period 5

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Lessons commence from **08.30**, so it is important that students arrive on site no later than **08.20**. If students arrive later than this, it will impact upon their learning, so please work with us when making transport arrangements to help our young people arrive on time. We do liaise with bus companies to ask for their support in ensuring that all services enable students to arrive at Shirebrook Academy no later than 08.20.

2. Start date and timings

Shirebrook Academy will reopen to **all students Years 7-11 on Tuesday 8th September 2026**.

Years 7 and 8 will be welcomed back to the academy on Tuesday 8th September, with students in these year groups **expected on site from 08.20** and **Years 9, 10 and 11 from 10.45 onwards**. Please note that buses will only be running at their usual times, so if your child is in Years 9, 10 or 11 and needs to access the bus to attend the academy, they should catch the bus as usual, and provision will be made for them in the academy until the start time of 10.45. Please let your child's Year Team know in advance if they will be catching the bus and arriving in the academy for 08.20 on Tuesday 8th September.

Students will be directed to their lining up points each day and will be met by their form tutors. **On Tuesday 8th September, all students Y7-11 will be with their form tutors throughout the day**, with a range of activities planned, including year group assemblies, administrative time and the issuing of new timetables and a focus placed on our learning ready and behaviour standards. There has been a revision of form tutor allocation for the 2026-27 academic year and where changes may have been made, your child's new form tutor will be introducing themselves to their new form groups prior to the summer break.

This year we have prepared some equipment packs that can be purchased by parents/carers for new Year 7 students at the Transition event on the 13th July and for Year 8 students, with payments made on ParentPay by Friday 21st August 2026. The costs of the packs are £1.50 and they represent excellent value with all of the stationery items that students would need. If purchased for Year 8 students, they will be issued on their first day back at the academy by their tutors. Moving forward, we will have packs available for other year groups to purchase from our academy library and further details regarding this will be issued in the new academic year.

From Wednesday 9th September, all students (Years 7-11) are expected on site from 08.20 each day.

Lunchtime timings remain the same for year groups in the new academic year. **Year 10/11** students will have their lunch between **11.55-12.25** and **Year 7/8/9** students will have their lunch between **12.25-12.55**. This helps to ensure that all students are able to access lunch provision in their allocated

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time slot and attend their afternoon lessons on time. Tutor time takes place for **Y7/8/9** at **11.55-12.25** and for **Y10/11** at **12.25-12.55**. Tutor times cover key Personal Development content alongside the drop-down days that we will hold throughout the academic year. The sessions are timetabled lessons with tutors to ensure the teaching of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Wellbeing and Careers Education (PSHE) as well as Relationships, Sex and Health Education – (RSHE). Students will also access a year group assembly each week and will be involved in reading and debate activities. Years 7, 8 and 9 have a timetabled period of Personal Development learning each week running alongside this.

3. Academy Uniform

Full academy uniform should be worn by students returning from Tuesday 8th September 2026. Shirebrook's academy uniform can be purchased from The Schoolwear Centre in Mansfield Town during the school break and a copy of our ACET Senior Academies Uniform Policy for 2026-27 has been included with this letter. Please note that students are **not permitted** to wear any type of trainers, sandals, open-toed, backless, canvas shoes or jelly/rubber type shoes. If wearing boots, trousers should be able to be worn over the boot and not tucked in. Students should wear plain black formal tailored trousers or a plain black knee-length skirt. If wearing trousers, **they should have a standard waistband, a front zip, should not be tight around the ankle and should touch the shoe**. These formal style trousers should be made of a viscose, polyester type material. They should not be made of twill, denim or jersey type materials. If students wish to wear a skirt, **then it must be a trust approved one, purchased from the academy official suppliers**. Skirts should be worn with tights (black or flesh coloured) and leggings should not be worn instead of tights. Skirts that are shorter than knee length and shorts are not permitted.

Thank you to those parents/carers that have worked with us regarding uniform standards and expectations. If any changes are made to uniform policy during governor/trustee consultation, we will communicate this to all members of our academy community as and when any changes arise.

Changes were previously made to what is permitted in relation to piercings, with students able to wear a pair of plain studs in their ears (lower ear lobe only). **Nose, tongue and other facial piercings have not been permitted since 2022-23** and we are asking that parents/carers work with us to ensure that students in Years 7/8/9/10 and 11 from September 2026-27, do not have these piercings. Where children may already have a piercing that is not permitted, please ensure that no further piercing takes place during your child's time at the academy. Clear facial piercings are not allowed as an alternative, and all facial piercings should be removed by students. All uniform policy revisions have been agreed by ACET Trustees and Shirebrook Academy's Local Governing Body.

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Excellent learning begins with positive behaviour and attitudes, and uniform is a key part of this. It is important that students wear their uniform with pride and value the collective sense of belonging it affords, and the academy values it upholds. Wearing uniform is also an important aspect of safeguarding as Shirebrook Academy students can be easily identified on their journeys to and from school.

We thank you in advance for working with us to ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform for September 2026. If you have any questions regarding any aspects of uniform, please do not hesitate to contact us.

4. Attendance

Your child's attendance is incredibly important to their success in school. In order for your child to make the most of their learning within the academy, they have to ensure that they attend each day, punctually. Good attendance is attendance above **96.0%** and this is the minimum target that we are focusing on with students.

There is a clear correlation between excellent attendance and improved learning and life chances, so much so that it is referenced in the Department for Education 'Working together to improve school attendance' statutory guidance from August 2026 (Page 8). In the guidance it states, **'The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment'**. The guidance also recognises that improving attendance is everyone's business and that in order to secure good attendance schools need to be calm, orderly, safe and supportive environments.

We recognise the importance of attendance to our students and will work with you to ensure that your child attends as regularly as possible. If you have any attendance concerns in the new academic year, please do not hesitate to contact us.

5. Behaviour and Attitudes

We have the highest aspirations and ambitions for our students, and we want them to flourish in atmospheres of mutual respect where they are valued for the contributions that they make. In order to achieve this, it is important that every member of our academy community is clear regarding our shared standards and expectations.

A copy of our Behaviour and Rewards Policy can be found on our website at - <https://www.astoncetrust.org/attachments/download.asp?file=502&type=pdf>. Please take time to

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look at the policy to further understand our shared standards and expectations. Please continue to note that **mobile phones are not permitted to be used during the day on the academy site**. Mobile phones can be brought to the academy and used prior to the start of the academy day and at the end once students have left the grounds. Phones are not permitted to be used during break or lunchtime. If a student is seen with a mobile phone during the academy day it will be confiscated in line with the **Education and Inspections Act, 2006**. It is very important that we help our young people to see the benefits of conversational social and emotional interaction in person and limit some of the negative effects of increased screen time and device use. Educational studies have shown that learning improves when students are focused and when distractions such as the use of social media is minimised. The **DfE Mobile Phones in Schools** guidance – June 2026, states that all schools should be mobile phone-free environments and that policies should prohibit the use of mobile phones and other smart technology with functionalities similar to mobile phones (for example, the ability to send and/or receive notifications or messages via mobile phone networks or the ability to record audio and/or video)

Linked to work standards and presentation, students should bring a school bag to the academy each day. Within their bags should be their mastery booklet (Years 7 and 8), equipment packs/pencil cases and any other equipment that they may need in line with their timetables e.g. PE kit. Essential stationery should include at least two black/blue pens, a purple pen, a pencil, ruler, eraser, whiteboard pen and scientific calculator. Equipment can be purchased from the academy shop should your child need to purchase items, but we would like to ask for your support in ensuring that your child is equipped prior to arrival at the academy so that they are 'Shirebrook Learning Ready'.

We want what is best for your children and our students which is why we insist on the highest standards and expectations. Thank you for working with us and speaking to your children about their role and responsibilities as a learner prior to returning to the academy in the new academic year.

6. Reminder: Academy closure for the summer break

The academy closes for this academic year at **12.30 on Wednesday 22nd July**. School buses have been arranged at this time so that all pupils are able to travel home promptly and safely. If there are any supervision concerns for your child and you need them to stay in the academy until **15.00**, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A range of activities have been planned for students to make their final day of term and the academic year, a memorable one, including the renowned 'Shirebrook's Got Talent' showcase. Children will also be able to access refreshments and lunch during the morning.

Lastly, I am pleased to be able to introduce the new Year Team structure that will be in place within the academy from September 2026. Each year group has a Year Team Hub where students can go to speak to staff

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and ask any questions or communicate any concerns that they may have. Year Team colleagues are also the first point of contact for parents/carers that have any questions and/or concerns that they would like to raise or have any information that they need to communicate regarding their child/ren. Colleagues can be contacted using the email addresses below or using the contact telephone details at the top of this letter. The colleagues working with each year group from September 2026 are:

Year 7 – based in Science

Pastoral Support Manager – Mrs A Taylor ataylor4@shirebrookacademy.org

Pastoral and Learning Lead – Mr W Foster wfoster@shirebrookacademy.org

Assistant Vice Principal – Miss L McKay lmckay@shirebrookacademy.org

Year 8 – based in Maths

Pastoral Support Manager – To be confirmed in the new academic year

Pastoral and Learning Lead – Mr J Moran jmoran@shirebrookacademy.org

Assistant Vice Principal – Mr R Duroe rduroe@shirebrookacademy.org

Year 9 – based in MFL/Computing

Pastoral Support Manager – Miss K Gill kgill@shirebrookacademy.org

Pastoral and Learning Lead – Mr A Marsh amarsh@shirebrookacademy.org

Vice Principal – Mr D O'Reilly doreilly@shirebrookacademy.org

Year 10 – based in Humanities

Pastoral Support Manager – Mrs H Loxley hloxley@shirebrookacademy.org

Pastoral and Learning Lead – Mr A Dalby adalby@shirebrookacademy.org

Vice Principal – Mrs L Ward lward@shirebrookacademy.org

Year 11 – based in English

Pastoral Support Manager – Miss G Nussey gnussey1@shirebrookacademy.org

Pastoral and Learning Lead – Mr C Risley crisley@shirebrookacademy.org

Assistant Vice Principal – Mrs E Wainwright ewainwright@shirebrookacademy.org

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If you have any questions regarding any aspects of this letter, please do not hesitate to make contact with us using the contact details at the top of this letter or emailing enquiries@shirebrookacademy.org.

We wish you, your children and families a restful and happy summer break.

We are very much looking forward to continuing to work closely with the Shirebrook Academy community and seeing our students ready and prepared for a new academic year in September.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Lindsey Burgin
Principal

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