

19th December 2025

Dear parents/carers,

As we have reached the end of term, I wanted to share a few thoughts with you. Building a strong partnership between home and school is an important way we ensure our young people are safe, happy and learning. I feel we do that well here at Sharnbrook, and I'm grateful to you for your involvement in your child's (or children's) learning. Whether that's through supporting with homework, being in contact with teachers, attending our Winter Showcase, or cheering at the end of a football pitch, all your contributions are invaluable.

As Principal, I warmly invite you to be in close communication with me or any of the team here at school. We are keen to hear from you and work closely with you to allow your child or children to flourish, and to keep improving the school for everyone. Feedback is always welcome. For example, I would like to thank you for responding to our uniform consultation, the outcome of which can be found below. I am planning on holding some parent forum meetings in the new year so we can talk in person, and I would strongly encourage you to join our 'Friends of Sharnbrook' group so that you can help us find new and exciting ways for students to have fun and make memories in school.

We will also be seeking a parent and a community governor next term to join our Academy Council (Local Governing Body). If that is of interest to you, please get in touch.

I hope you have found our communication to you in the past term to be timely, helpful and informative. We are keen to improve, so please do let us know how we can communicate better. In the meantime, I will close this letter by drawing your attention to the important notices included below and by wishing you all a warm and joyful Christmas break.

May your days be merry and bright!



Mrs Waterman

Sharnbrook Academy Notices

Autumn Term Newsletter

Please take a moment to read our incredible newsletter to get an insight into all the brilliant activities your children have been involved in this term. Please click [here](#) for further information.

Uniform Consultation

The results are in! Thank you to parents, carers, staff and students for responding to our uniform consultation. Please read the letter linked below. Please be reassured that while there are some welcome additions to the school uniform, the current uniform as it stands is accurate and therefore no-one should feel under pressure to buy new items for January. Please click [here](#) for further information.

Vaping and substance use

As a school community, we are committed to safeguarding the health, safety, and well-being of our students. Recently, we have become aware of growing risks associated with vaping, including the use of unregulated or illicit vape products, some of which may contain harmful or illegal substances. These products pose serious health risks and may lead to dangerous behaviours and long-term consequences.

We are particularly concerned that some young people may be unaware of what these vapes contain, including high levels of nicotine or even substances such as THC or synthetic cannabinoids. These substances can severely impair judgement and pose a risk to physical and mental health.

We would like to ask for your support in reinforcing these messages at home. Please take a moment to speak with your child about the real dangers associated with vaping and illegal substances. Being alert to changes in behaviour or appearance and staying informed can make a significant difference. You can find more information about the dangers of vapes here [Honest information about drugs | FRANK](#)

Please remind your child that if they bring a vape to school, the consequence is likely to be fixed term suspension.

Host families for Chinese students

We are pleased to let you know that St Neots English Centre is working in partnership with Sharnbrook Academy to welcome a group of Chinese students to the school this summer. During their stay, the students will integrate into lessons, interact with Sharnbrook pupils, and enjoy a valuable educational and cultural experience.

To support this programme, we are looking for families in the local area who would be interested in hosting a Chinese student or students for a 4-week stay from Monday 8 June to Wednesday 1 July. If you have a spare room and would be interested in welcoming one or more students into your home, the St Neots English Centre would love to hear from you.

SHARNBROOK ACADEMY

Odell Road, Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire MK44 1JL
E-mail: administration@sharnbrook.academy
Website: www.sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk

Telephone: 01234 782211 Sixth Form: 01234 782191
Academy Principal: Carly Waterman
Trust Executive Principal: Richard Spencer

- You can host one, two or three students.
- Students can share a bedroom.
- Host Families are generously paid. For example, hosting two students for 4 weeks earns you £1,680.

Hosting international students is a rewarding experience that many families choose to repeat, and it offers pupils on both sides a wonderful cultural exchange.

If you are interested in hosting or would like further information, please contact St Neots English Centre at info@stneots-ec.com

In school, we will be selecting 'buddies' in Year 7 and 8 who will be a friend and mentor to a Chinese student throughout their time in school. If you think your child would be interested in being a 'buddy' (you don't have to be a host for your child to be a buddy) please let us know on administration@sharnbrook.academy

We're really looking forward to this opportunity for multi-cultural insights for all involved. Thank you in advance for your support.

Term Dates 2027 – 2028

The term dates for 2027-2028 have been added to our school website. Please click [here](#) to view. On the page you can also find the term dates for 2026-2027 and for the remainder of this year. We want to make sure families are informed of dates well in advance to support your planning. Please remember that holidays taken in term time cannot be authorised.

SEND information

On behalf of Bedford Borough Council, we're pleased to share information opportunities and support for families of children and young people. Please click [here](#) to view.