

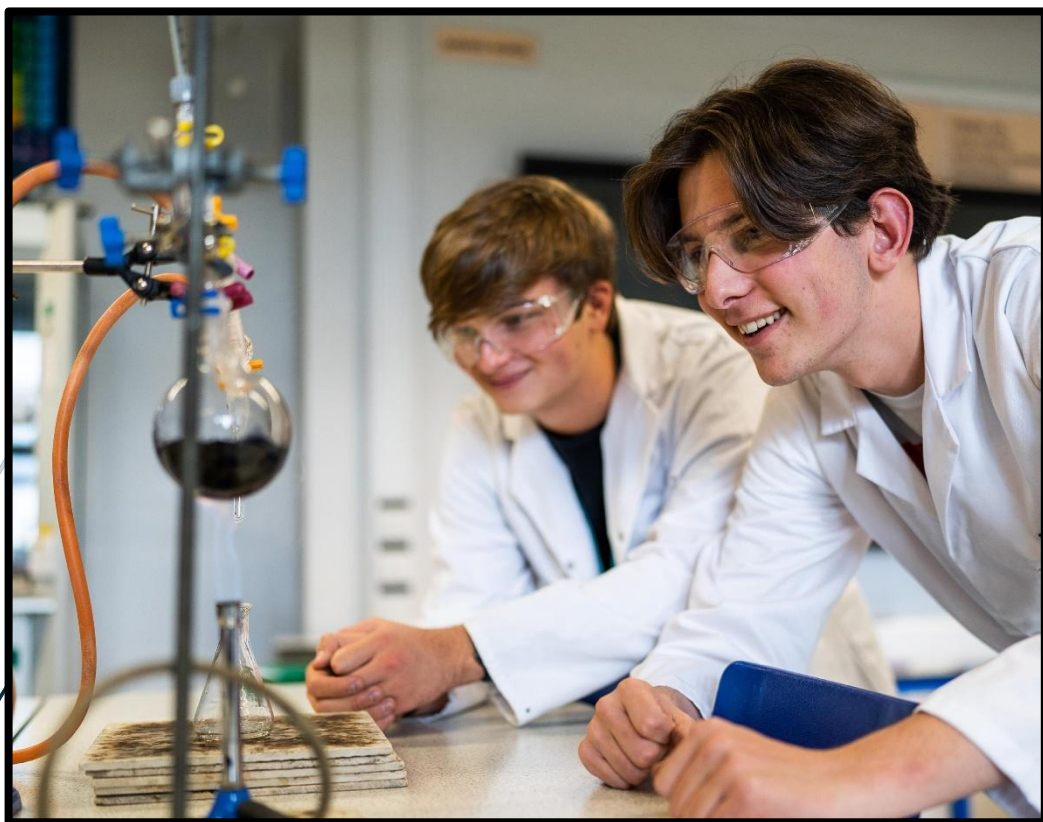


Sharnbrook
Sixth Form

LEARNING JOURNEY

Enrichment Programme

2026 - 2027



Sixth Form Enrichment

At Sharnbrook, our hope and expectation is that each young person grows into their best self, with zest for life and the generosity and confidence to use their talents and gifts in the service of others; our Sixth Form enrichment programme has been designed with this intention at its very heart; by providing students with opportunity to explore a rich and varied set of activities that go beyond their academic studies so that they can thrive and develop as responsible young citizens.

You will have Sessions built into your timetable for enrichment. There are a wide range of activities on offer which aim to be fun, challenging and will help strengthen your CV or university application. A wide variety of activities will be on offer.

You might pick an activity because its already of interest to you and you want to learn more, to add variety to your studies or to try something completely new!

We will be asking students to pick their enhancement options on induction days at the start of the year.



THE PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Our enrichment programme spans both year 12 and 13, and students are given a choice of enrichment pathways they wish to follow.

Some activities are qualifications or competitions which mean that they will last for the duration of the academic year in either year 12 or year 13, whereas others can be taken on a rotation basis to enable students to access a broad range of activities.

The programme structures for the respective year groups are set out below, and further details of each activity can be found on the following pages.

YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Each student MUST select one certified qualification from block A.	Each student MUST select one certified qualification from block A.
They must then make at least one selection from block B AND C	The EPQ and Leadership qualifications are not available to year 13.
3 enrichments in total (minimum)	You can select the Duke of Edinburgh Award if you have been actively working towards it in year 12
Further enrichments can be selected by choice.	They must then make at least one further selection from block B OR block C
	2 enrichments (minimum)
	Further enrichments can be selected by choice.

A – timetabled (Various) Min – 1 hr/wk.	B – 1 hour a week	C – 1 hour a week
Certified Qualification	Roles within the Academy	Enrichment Activities
- AQA Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) (Year 12 Only – year 13 exceptional cases) - Sports Leadership (Year 12 Only) - Sign Language qualification - Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC's) - Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award (£) - Climbing Club – NICAS Level 1 & 2 (£) - Teaching English as a Foreign Language (Level 2 Qual) (£)	- Subject Ambassador - Sixth Form Ambassadors - House Representative - Equality and Diversity Student Voice - Student Fund Raising / Charity Voice - Wellbeing Group - Lead on an enrichment of your choice. - Reading Champions	- Football - Netball - Rugby - Badminton - Table Tennis - Chess Club - Debating Society - Teachers of tomorrow - Sharnbrook House – Volunteering Opportunity - Reading Cafe - Think Tank - Apprenticeship and work application support - Broadcast Crew (Friday tutor time)

BLOCK A – CERTIFIED COURSES

COURSE	PAGE
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Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The EPQ is available to students with an English Language grade 4 or above. It allows students to investigate one area of their own interest in much further depth and involves choosing a topic and carrying out research into a defined area of study, supported in small groups by a supervisor. This is then backed up with a programme of taught skills sessions to enable successful completion of the project. There is no exam, but students produce either a dissertation-type essay or physical product together with a shorter report and is handed in at the end of Year 12.

The choice of topics is pretty much unlimited – you could choose to extend your studies in one of your current A levels or combine elements of more than one of them. Alternatively, it could be an area that we do not cover in this school – past examples include Archaeology and Classical Civilisation – or it could be about something from outside of school, an ethical issue perhaps, or something that affects you personally or that you care about, or just something that you want to find out more about. However, it cannot simply be re-hashing current or past work. All work is scanned for plagiarism, just as it is at university.

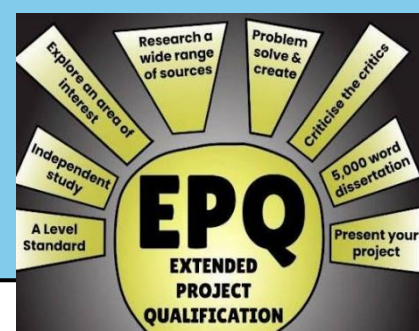
The EPQ is all about the researching and developing of work, as well as producing it, so that you can reflect on your journey of learning that you have undertaken, regardless of what the actual result is. It is well regarded by both universities and employers alike since it provides a raft of skills that are required post-secondary school and demonstrates a good degree of initiative. EPQ is worth half an A Level at A2 standard (i.e. more UCAS points than an AS!).

Key Features

The Extended Project is highly regarded by universities as a major benefit to students preparing for the challenges of individual study. Increasingly, universities are also making alternative or differentiated offers based on the EPQ and/ or are making it part of their entry requirements. Key to this is academic research that can focus on contemporary issues that have real relevance and significance to the lives of our students and areas of academic interest that they themselves would like to develop and explore.

Moreover, EPQ strives to:

- Add value that can be put onto UCAS personal statements.
 - Encourage thinking across specialist subjects.
- Develop students' ability to make inferences from data, images and documentary sources, to argue a case and draw reasonable conclusions.
 - Foster enquiry and critical thinking about interconnecting issues.
- The skills of communication, problem-solving and reasoning skills, analysis and evaluation.



Massive open online courses (MOOCs)

MOOCs are delivered by many universities from the UK and abroad. Students can study a MOOC in any subject area where they have an interest. Sharnbrook's Sixth Form prides itself on offering our students opportunities to study and enrich their academic portfolio by taking part in these initiatives. A MOOC is a fantastic opportunity to enhance current A level studies and to provide students with the opportunity of being taught by leading university lecturers and research professors from the UK and around the world who can provide them with the most up to date knowledge.

Below is an outline of some key benefits that studying a MOOC:

1. They are topic/subject specific and if a student knows they wish to continue with X subject at university, then taking a MOOC course in year 12 & 13 to support their university applications will be of great benefit.
2. Support and adds an independent learning side to A level courses. All MOOCs are related to many of the A level and BTEC courses your son/daughter is taking at Samuel Whitbread.
3. Open source of knowledge and skills – there is no entry requirement for any MOOC.
4. Students get a chance to become part producers and consumers of research content alongside university experts.
5. Free – there is no charge to enter most of the MOOC courses. There is a small charge for the certificate of completion at the end of the course. Paying for elements of MOOCs is not expected.
6. Interactive learning – they are not just lectures.
7. Each MOOC has a recommended number of learning/participation hours per week – the student can decide when they do this as there is no set time of day or the week.
8. Use of higher education skills and knowledge is enhanced.
9. Assists with 'tasters' of university courses.

Students will be supported by Mrs Bains



Every year 12 and 13 student who has opted to do this as an enrichment option needs to complete a MOOC/s of at least 18 hours.

This could mean taking two or three MOOC courses to ensure you conduct the 18 hours. Each MOOC course specifies the number of hours per week.

Further information and links will be provided once you have signed up.

Gold D of E (£)

“The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award has helped countless young people on their sometimes-difficult path to adulthood.”

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

You can carry out the Gold D of E at Sharnbrook even if you have not carried out the previous levels, it may just take you a little longer. The expeditions take place in June/ July in Year 12. For the past seven decades, the Charity has inspired and transformed the lives of millions of young people from all walks of life. From volunteering to physical activities, life skills to expeditions, achieving a DofE Award is a passport to a brighter future, valued by employers and universities. The D of E programme is well-established here, at all levels. We have had a student have a (downwards) revised university offer made to her on account of her gold DofE award!

Activities for each DofE section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period, so they can be fitted in around academic study, hobbies and social lives. Development and regular progress must be shown, and all activities must be completed by the participant’s 25th birthday.



Gold timescales:

Volunteering section: 12 months

Physical and Skills sections: One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months

Expedition section: 4 days/3 nights

Residential section: Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights.

If you didn’t do Silver, you must undertake a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.

You must be 16 years old.

Follow the link below for more information

<http://www.dofe.org/>



Sports Leadership (Level 3)

Objective

The Level 3 Qualification in Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful learners to independently lead purposeful and enjoyable sport/physical activity. The qualification aligns with professional standards for sport and physical activity leadership, especially through the focus on leading inclusive sessions to participants.

Responsibility of leading safe sessions as a sports leader

A level 3 sports leader is required to be supported and guided at all times by their tutor (or responsible person at the organisation they are leading in). The responsible person will be required to advise the learner on risk assessments and how these should lead in line with the organisation's safety guidance.

Once qualified the sports leader will be able to independently lead (once 18 years old) and will be responsible for all safeguarding and safety aspects in the future as a certificated level 3 sports leader.

Example of Units to be covered

Unit 5 – Plan, lead and evaluate a sports/physical activity event

Unit 6 – Demonstrate leading inclusive sport/physical activity sessions to a range of participant groups

Leadership hours required

2 hours of event leadership AND

12 hours of leadership to a range of participant groups

UCAS points: 16

There will be a commitment of 1 hour each week



Climbing Club – NICAS Level 1 & 2 (£)

What is NICAS Climbing?

NICAS Climbing is a UK-wide scheme to introduce participants to roped climbing through a structured programme. Whether you're a beginner or looking to enhance your climbing skills,

NICAS provides a safe and enjoyable pathway for climbers of all ages.

NICAS Climbing aims to develop climbing skills in a safe and structured environment. It covers both indoor roped climbing as well as bouldering, providing participants with a solid foundation in climbing techniques, safety awareness, and personal progression



Rock climbing isn't just a great workout for the body – it also exercises the brain.

In one study, climbing for about two hours boosted working memory capacity by 50%



British Sign Language

Sign Language is a visual means of communicating using gestures, facial expression, and body language. Sign Language is used mainly by people who are Deaf or have hearing impairments.

COURSE OUTLINE

This Course contains 10 lessons and covers:

Fingerspelling, Numbers, colours, Deaf Awareness, Introduction, Family, Relationships, Descriptions, Hobbies, Time, Money, Days, Months & Seasons, Food & Frink. Emotions, Animals, clothing, and Conversation.

The course will be studied online, and you will allocate 1 hour a week for approx. 20 weeks.

Sign Language Alphabet



iScholar



Learn to converse in BSL

FUN AND ENCOURAGING!

I really enjoyed doing this course as I could go at my own pace and have a full appreciation for the language. The course is laid out very well and I definitely had fun learning the signs. Would recommend this to all my friends!



Zaana A.



Teaching English as a Foreign Language

Level 2 Certified Learning Course in TEFL (120 Hours)

The course is an ideal option for students looking to gain a TEFL certificate alongside their studies, or during the summer holidays and half terms. With 120 hours of self-paced learning spread over 180 days, students can fit the course around other commitments and access it anytime via desktop or the mobile app. The content is interactive and engaging, featuring videos, quizzes, and practical resources like worksheets and ready-made lesson plans.

- ✓ **Self-paced & accessible** – 120 hours over 180 days with 24/7 course app access.
- ✓ **Multimedia learning** – Narrated videos, interactive activities, quizzes, worksheets, and ready-to-use lesson plans
- ✓ **UK-TEFL E-certificate** - E-Certificate included in the course price
- ✓ **Accredited certificate** – TQUK accredited certification with the chance to upgrade to TQUK Certificate
- ✓ **Built-in support** – tutor guidance during the course, with post-completion advisor support and job-finding help



NOTE: There is a cost of £99 attached to this course.



BLOCK B – LEADERSHIP ROLES WITHIN THE ACADEMY

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House Representative	13
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Equality and Diversity Student Voice	14
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Subject and Sixth Form Ambassadors

A Subject and Sixth Form Ambassador is a key role within the Sixth Form. Becoming an ambassador not only enables you to undertake a personal fulfilment but also enables you to use this experience on future applications to help you stand out from amongst the rest.

Please see the below requirements of a Sixth Form Subject Ambassador.

Requirements of a Sixth Form Subject mentor and Ambassador

Select one of your A levels/BTEC courses that you are passionate about and speak with the department teachers about becoming a subject ambassador.

12 hours of support in year 9, 10 and 11 lessons or after school sessions over the year – assisting the class teacher and students in the lower year groups.

4-6 hours of department-based work over the year. This could be through various activities e.g. display boards, development of resources, helping organise house competitions for the department etc.

Evidence of 2 and 3 above will need to be submitted by the department in which the student is a subject ambassador. The evidence of hours needs to be submitted to Ms Withers (Head of year 12) or Mr Arklay (Head of Year 13) and Mrs Hankins (Head of Sixth Form)



Requirements of a Sixth Form Ambassador

You will be required to help at events across the year. Future prospective students are invited to attend open evenings – as part of your role you will assist with the organisation and running of these events. Meeting and greeting and leading on group and individual tours.

You will need to be confident, a good listener and most of all a role model to the younger years

All Sixth Form Ambassadors will be supported by Mrs Bains.

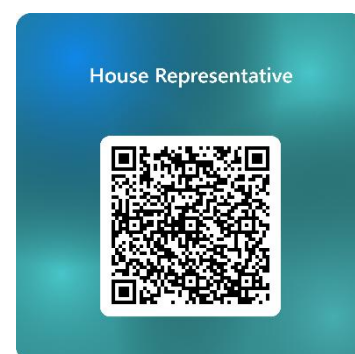
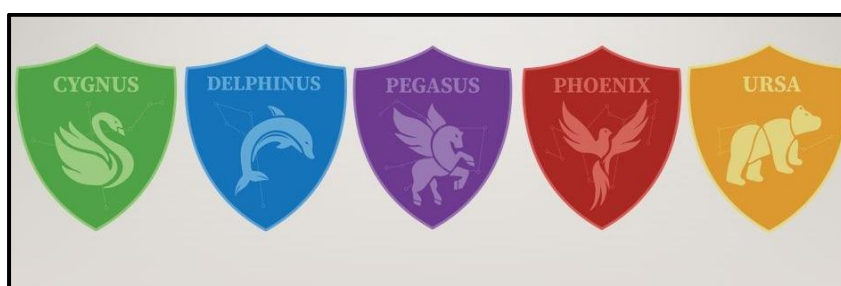
House Representative

A House Representative is a key role within the Sixth Form. Becoming a representative not only enables you to undertake a personal fulfilment but also enables you to use this experience on future applications to help you stand out from the rest.

Requirements of a House Representative

A House Representative will assist the Head of House in the running and organisation of daily events and House competitions. Taking on leadership opportunities when required.

Reporting directly to the Head of House you will complete tasks, support classes and students as required. Allocating 1 hour each week.



Student Fundraising and Charity & Student Voice

The Sixth Form pride themselves on their fundraising events and supporting local and countrywide charities.

You will allocate 1 hour a fortnight to meet as a group and discuss ideas. These ideas will then be fed back to students through tutor times, assemblies and the school broadcast.

Being part of the student voice is a key role within the Sixth Form. The role will not only enable you to undertake a personal fulfilment but also enables you to use this experience on future applications to help you stand out from others.

All meetings will be supported by Ms Champion



Equality and Diversity Student Voice

Equality and Diversity matters. Sharnbrook Academy is taking this seriously and wants students to be part of our push to improve understanding and attitudes to issues surrounding equality and diversity in this country and in this school. This group would allow you work with experts in the school to achieve this aim.

You would be developing skills and knowledge that would develop your own, and others understanding, and could be used in UCAS applications.

Researching and presenting: You would be researching and presenting information on the topic of race and racism in this country.

Taking a lead: You will be working with other year groups (virtually) to help lead and guide them in their actions researching and promoting these issues.

Providing a solution: Through the student body working together and educating each other, could some solutions be found to change attitudes in the school or beyond?

Mentoring: As part of this group you will be mentoring those in lower years in Sharnbrook Academy.

Research: You will have the chance to work on topics that are controversial and subject to current debate.

Articulation and discussion: Whether you are a confident speaker or would rather organise and research behind the scenes, this option will allow you to articulate your ideas and arguments.

You will allocate 1 hour a fortnight to meet as a group and discuss ideas. These ideas will then be fed back to students through tutor times, assemblies and the school broadcast.

All meetings will be supported by Ms Cox



Wellbeing Group

Being part of the wellbeing group, you will play a key role in Sixth Form life. You will belong to a group that will make a difference, providing ideas on how to improve wellbeing and support small group work projects. You will also develop strong listening and life skills that you can take with you beyond sixth form life.

Please allocate 1 hour a fortnight to meet as a group in the wellbeing room to discuss ideas which will shape the future of wellbeing for sixth form students.

All meetings will be supported by Ms Manani



Lead on an enrichment of your choice



This is your opportunity to take a lead on an enrichment of your choice.

Maybe there is something that you are passionate about – a hobby or a sport.

Bring your ideas along to the sixth form office and we will help you take your idea forward.

A great **leadership** opportunity that not only enables you to undertake a personal fulfilment but also enables you to use this experience on future applications to help you stand out from the rest.

Reading Champions

Become a Reading Champion!

Are you a passionate reader? Do you want to make a difference in our school community? We're looking for enthusiastic students like you to become Reading Champions!

As a Reading Champion, you'll have the chance to:

Help younger students in their library lessons: Listen to them read, support their focus, and boost their understanding of what they're reading.

Be a role model during breaks and lunch: Help students choose books, chat with them about their favourite stories, and inspire a love of reading.

Promote reading across the school: Share your favourite books, recommend must-reads, and get involved in events like our Sharnbrook Lit Festival!

This is a great opportunity to share your love of reading, build your leadership skills, and make a real impact. Join us and help create a vibrant reading community at our school!

Explore stories that open your mind and give you fresh perspectives on the world.

Reading isn't just about school—it's a great way to prepare for university interviews and boost your mental health too. So why not grab a book and join us at the Reading Café? You might just find your next favourite read! Look out for posters in the library.



BLOCK C – ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

All enrichment activities will be undertaken weekly either during or after school

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Think Tank	22
Apprenticeships and Work Application Support (AWAS)	23
Broadcast Crew (Working Friday tutor time)	24



Sport plays an important part in life at Sharnbrook Sixth Form, with students able to get involved in a range of clubs and teams, including **football, netball and rugby**. These provide an excellent opportunity to stay active, develop teamwork and leadership skills, build friendships and represent the Sixth Form in a competitive and supportive environment.

Whether you are already passionate about sport or simply looking to try something new, our sports clubs are open to students of all abilities. Taking part is a great way to meet new people, build confidence and enjoy a healthy balance alongside your studies. Students are encouraged to get involved, have fun and make the most of the opportunities available beyond the classroom

- Football
- Netball
- Rugby
- Start a club of your own



Chess Club

CHESS CLUB

Playing chess can improve cognitive skills like memory, planning, and problem-solving. It may also help reduce symptoms of certain brain conditions. The game of chess is loved all over the world.

Whether you are experienced or want to learn – come along.

This club will be supported by Mr Arklay



Debating Society

Do you have a point of view?

Do you enjoy discussing issues?

Debating society will help you to become an articulate persuasive communicator. It will provide you with a platform to voice opinions, engage in critical thinking and develop your public speaking skills.



Reading Cafe



Join the Sixth Form Reading Café!

Looking for a way to unwind and connect with others? Come hang out at our Sixth Form Reading Café! Each week, you'll get to:

Browse our latest book arrivals and discover something new to read.

Share your favourite books with fellow sixth formers and staff—get and give great recommendations.

Christian Society is a welcoming space to meet once a week, make new friends and explore faith, life and the big questions that matter. Whether you are a committed Christian, curious about Christianity, or simply interested in open and friendly discussion, everyone is welcome. It's a relaxed opportunity to connect, reflect and be part of a supportive community.

Christian Society



Teachers of Tomorrow

In the “Teachers of Tomorrow” programme you will be working alongside a teacher to specifically help individuals with their learning. You would have to work with them to see where you have free lessons available so that you can get some regular time in with a particular class. This is a great opportunity for anyone thinking of entering the world of teaching, to see both the joys and the trials of getting ideas across to younger minds!

It does however require some regular commitment from you! It is an ideal opportunity to see matters ‘from the other side’ and to get a taste of some of the rewards and the challenges of work in the education sector. You will not be expected to do the teacher’s work for them, but you will get the opportunity to work alongside them, to try out ideas, to help individuals with their learning and to be guided by the teacher about ways that you could implement ideas and help with the progress of others.

You will be filling out a logbook of your work over the course of the year and (hopefully!) you will be able to reflect and see how you have progressed during this time. You will have the opportunity to talk through your work with the teacher you are working with and also you will have regular review sessions with the Head of Enrichment.



This is a wonderful opportunity for you not only to learn some of the skills of the trade but also to really enhance your CV and to stand out from the crowd, showing that you have the initiative if you want to get onto a certified teaching programme, the competition for which is becoming increasingly fierce.

Sharnbrook House – volunteering opportunity

Volunteering at Sharnbrook Care Home located in the village for 1 hour a fortnight.

You will work alongside a support worker helping with activities, supporting events, making teas and coffees, and generally chatting to the residents. If you are considering a career in social care this would enable you to use this experience in the future.

This opportunity will be supported by Ms Manani.



“Sharnbrook House is one of the most highly recommended residential care homes in Bedfordshire, with exceptional reputation with all healthcare professionals, dedicated highly trained staff and is widely considered the best residential care home by the local community.”

Think Tank

The Sharnbrook Academy Think Tank Programme aims to provide students with a greater understanding of what it means to apply for, and study at, both Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group Universities, and for early entry programmes such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science and music conservatoires.

By offering a wide range of support, including workshops, virtual lectures, talks, visits, peer support and one-to-one guidance, we can ensure that the students that go on to apply for Oxbridge/early entry/ Russell Group Universities, have made an informed decision and are able to submit the strongest application possible.

Please speak to Mrs Bains in the Sixth Form Study centre for more information.

dbains@sharnbrook.academy

Russell Group Universities



University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
Cardiff University
Durham University
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
Imperial College London
King's College London
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
London School of Economics and Political Science
University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
Queen Mary University of London
Queen's University Belfast
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University College London
University of Warwick
University of York



Apprenticeships and Work Application Support (AWAS)

Apprenticeships and Work Application Support (AWAS) – incorporating the National Youth Employment UK

There are an increasing number of apprenticeship and work opportunities available, however, the competition for these is extremely tough. AWAS is a specialised programme which is designed to provide students with the support they need to apply for a full range of degree and non-degree apprenticeship and employment opportunities.

This programme is supported by Mrs Bains.



"Youth Employment UK are the experts on youth employment, and key to this expertise is the voices of young people. They are passionate about providing a safe platform for young people to share their views on education and employment topics that impact them, to ensure that change makers are listening. As Youth Employment UK undertakes research into youth employment topics, they run youth voice sessions with young people all around the UK to gain youth voice insight and drive change.

Sharnbrook Academy will be supporting Youth Employment UK with facilitating youth voice sessions, so that students have the opportunity to share their views and experiences, have their voices heard, and make a real difference for all young people."



Broadcast Crew (Working Friday tutor time)



The broadcast is a weekly 20-minute live TV segment that is watched throughout the school. The broadcast is hosted by members of SLT, HOH and students as well as special reports from the PE department, Equality, diversity and Inclusion Team and 6th form senior students.

The broadcast is run by a dedicated student crew of approximately 70 volunteer students from years 7 to 13 who are placed into house teams. Each week a different house team leads the broadcast running the camera, sound, vision mixing, graphics and directing from our professional TV studio.

Every week the content is different, with staff celebrating individual student successes from inside and outside school, sharing class and group success from lessons, and highlighting extra-curricular opportunities.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION	HOUSE	POINTS
1 st	PHOENIX	2,721
2 nd	DELPHINUS	2,546
3 rd	CYGNUS	2,481
4 th	PEGASUS	2,446
5 th	URSA	2,297



Get Involved!

Signing up for enrichment is easy! Simply **scan the QR code below** or follow the link and choose the activities you would like to take part in.

Year 12 students must select a minimum of three enrichment activities, while Year 13 students must select a minimum of two.

We encourage you to choose activities that interest you, challenge you and give you the opportunity to develop new skills. If you have any questions or need help choosing your activities, please speak to a member of the **Sixth Form Team**.

[Enrichment Programme 2026 - 2027 – Fill out form](#)

