



Longdendale
HIGH SCHOOL

ENRICHMENT ELECTIVES

YEARS 7 & 8





OUR MISSION

Through excellence in education we are an inclusive community, that embraces choice, opens doors and creates opportunities. With kindness and collaboration, we empower everyone to be the best version of themselves. We are confident, curious and creative individuals who contribute positively to our community.



RESPECT

RESILIENCE

ASPIRATION

DEAR STUDENTS,

The Electives Programme is designed to bring to life our vision of *Excellence and Ambition for All*. We believe every student should have the opportunity to take part in enrichment activities beyond the curriculum - to explore new interests, develop talents, and reach their full potential.

Each academic year, you will take part in **three electives**, with each elective aligned to one of our **Pillars of Excellence**. By choosing electives across the different pillars, you demonstrate both the breadth of your character and your commitment to the *Longdendale Legacy*.

ACADEMIC ELECTIVE

This elective focuses on deepening your knowledge beyond the classroom. You will develop a love of lifelong learning, confidence in critical and enquiry-based thinking and the ability to apply problem-solving approaches to both conceptual and practical challenges.

PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELLBEING ELECTIVE

Physical health and wellbeing are essential to living a healthy, successful life. These electives help you build strength, stamina, resilience, flexibility, teamwork and coordination. You'll also learn strategies to support positive mental health and wellbeing, such as mindfulness.

COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP ELECTIVE

As a community school, we are proud to strengthen our links with the wider community. We have worked with residential care homes, primary schools, nurseries, churches and food banks - and we are passionate about helping you make a difference. These electives help you develop leadership, collaboration, oracy and project-based learning skills, empowering you to support others and build confidence.

You must choose **four electives** that you would like to study in the **Autumn Term**. During tutor time, your tutor will record your choices in order of preference. While we will do our best to allocate your first choice, this cannot be guaranteed, so please consider your reserve options carefully.

From Year 7 to Year 10, you will take part in **12 electives**, helping you to develop both your personal growth and cultural capital. Throughout each elective, your teacher will assess your participation, attendance and behaviour, which will contribute to your Legacy Certificate at one of four levels: **Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum**.

Electives are a compulsory part of our offer for all students. Once assigned, choices cannot be changed for timetabling reasons. Electives commence on Monday 7th September 2026 for the Autumn Term and take place during period 2 (10:05 - 11:00am).

Please read this guide carefully before making your choices, and aim to select electives that will stretch and challenge your talents and interests.

Thank you in advance,



Mr J Bowland
Assistant Headteacher

ELECTIVE CHOICES FOR TERM 1

ACADEMIC ELECTIVES

Beyond the Board: The Mind and Mastery of Chess	5
Case Closed: Crime Scene Investigation	6
Paws and Purpose: Understanding our Canine Companions	7
Paws, Claws and Care: The Animal Wellbeing Project.....	8
Read, Reflect, Connect: Books & Biscuits Club	9
Sign, Communicate, Connect: Introduction to Sign Language	10
Spell, Score, Succeed: Scrabble Skills	11
Warhammer Alliance: Build, Paint, Battle	12
Wizards, Words and Wonder: The Magic of Science and Storytelling.....	13

PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELLBEING ELECTIVES

Bounce to Success: Trampolining Skills	14
Chop, Spice, Sizzle: A Journey through Global Cooking	15
Design, Make, Wear: Jewellery Studio	16
Fold, Create, Master: The Art of Origami	17
Loop, Knit, Crochet: Creative Yarn Craft	18
Mind, Muscle, and Movement: The Craft of Badminton	19
Mythic Makers: Sculpting Beasts in Clay	20
Power and Play: The Spirit of Girls' Football	21
Swirl, Pipe, Finish: Cake Decorating Skills	22
Threads of Thought: The Art and Craft of Cross-Stitch	23

COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP ELECTIVES

Brand It, Build It, Pitch It: Young Entrepreneurs	24
Build for Biodiversity: Beds for Bugs, Bats and Birds	25
Chorus to Concert: The Power of Performance	26
Kindness in Action: Creating Positive Change	27
Lego: The Missing Piece	28
Passport to the World: Art Culture Club	29
Patterns of India: Art, Culture and Design	30
Words That Win: The Power and Practice of Debate	31
£50 Challenge: Grow It, Fund It, Change Lives	32

BEYOND THE BOARD

The Mind and Mastery of Chess

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



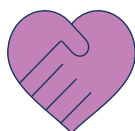
Overview

This elective is based on a two-player board game where the objective is to checkmate the opponent's king by strategically manoeuvring 16 pieces, and it is important because it develops crucial cognitive skills like problem-solving, planning, and critical thinking. The game's importance extends to real life as it fosters patience, teaches how to weigh consequences, and provides a framework for strategic thinking that can be applied to many other situations and challenges.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem-solving | Critical thinking | Patience | Resilience

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Beyond the Board: The Mind and Mastery of Chess** helps you develop strategic thinking, concentration, and patience - skills that are valuable for future study and many careers. Chess teaches you to think ahead, analyse complex situations, and make decisions under pressure. These abilities are essential in fields like science, technology, business, and law, but also benefit everyday problem-solving and teamwork. By studying the game's strategies and mindset, you're strengthening both your logic and creativity - a powerful combination for success in any path you choose.

CASE CLOSED

Crime Scene Investigation

Open to:

✓ Year 8



Overview

In this exciting elective, students will become detectives, forensic investigators and lawyers as they work together to solve a staged mystery. Inspired by real investigative practices used by organisations such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, students will analyse evidence, examine clues, question witness statements and explore elements of criminal psychology.

As the case develops, students will prepare for and take part in a mock trial based on the UK justice system, including the role of the Crown Prosecution Service. Lessons will involve collaborative investigation, role play, structured debate and courtroom simulation, encouraging students to think critically and work as a team to reach a verdict.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Critical thinking | Analytical reasoning | Evidence evaluation | Logical argument building | Public speaking

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Case Closed: Crime Scene Investigation** helps you develop analytical thinking, reasoning and communication skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in law, criminology, psychology, forensic science, policing, public services and journalism.

You will learn how to assess evidence carefully, build logical arguments, question information critically and present ideas persuasively. The course also builds confidence in public speaking, teamwork and decision-making under pressure, demonstrating your ability to think clearly and act responsibly in complex situations.

PAWS AND PURPOSE

Understanding our Canine Companions

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



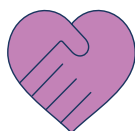
Overview

This elective course is perfect for dog lovers and curious minds alike. Over the term, you'll dive into the fascinating world of dogs, learning about their biology, behaviour, and the special bond they share with humans. Through fun activities and hands-on experiences, you'll gain a deeper understanding of our furry friends. Join us this autumn term for a journey of discovery, creativity, and fun! Please only choose this elective if you are not allergic to dogs as you might get the opportunity to 'Meet the Frenchie!'

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Active-listening | Observation | Compassion | Communication | Problem-solving

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Paws and Purpose: Understanding Our Canine Companions** helps you develop empathy, observation, and responsibility - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in veterinary science, animal care, psychology, and education. You'll learn about dog behaviour, communication, and wellbeing, gaining practical skills in working with animals.

This course also builds problem-solving, teamwork and communication skills, showing that you can understand, support, and positively influence the animals and people around you.

PAWS, CLAWS & CARE

The Animal Wellbeing Project

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



Overview

The key components of this animal welfare elective is based on an animal's five key welfare needs (health, environment, nutrition, behaviour and companionship). This course will identify common health issues around a variety of species, along with prevention. We will also look at dietary requirements of a variety of species, along with the basic accommodation requirements in order to maintain good health and behaviour. Within the course we will also look at the ethics and laws around keeping and caring for animals.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Communication | Empathy and compassion | Active listening | Teamwork

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Paws, Claws and Care: The Animal Wellbeing Project** helps you develop responsibility, empathy, and practical problem-solving skills that are valuable for future study and careers in veterinary science, animal care, biology, and environmental studies. You'll learn about animal behaviour, welfare, and how to meet their needs through hands-on experiences.

This course also builds teamwork, communication, and ethical awareness - showing that you can care for living things and take initiative in real-world situations. It's perfect for anyone passionate about animals and making a positive impact on their wellbeing.

READ, REFLECT, CONNECT

Books and Biscuits Club

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will take part in a supportive and enjoyable Book Club designed to encourage reading for pleasure, thoughtful discussion and confidence in sharing ideas. Students will read a shared text or select from a range of age-appropriate books, exploring novels, short stories, poetry and extracts based on student interests and preferences.

Sessions will include guided discussion, informal book talk and short interactive activities that encourage students to reflect on characters, themes and key ideas. The elective is designed to promote literacy development in a relaxed, low-pressure environment where participation and enjoyment are valued more highly than assessment or written outcomes. Students will also develop empathy and understanding by exploring different perspectives, experiences and cultures through literature. Audio texts and shared reading approaches may also be used to ensure accessibility and inclusion for all students.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Communication | Active-listening | Critical thinking | Emotional awareness | Literacy development

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Read, Reflect, Connect: Book Club** helps you develop communication, critical thinking and empathy - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in education, law, journalism, media, psychology, publishing and the wider creative industries.

You'll learn how to analyse ideas, express opinions clearly, listen respectfully to others and engage thoughtfully with different perspectives and themes. This course also builds confidence, emotional awareness and discussion skills, demonstrating your ability to participate positively in collaborative and reflective environments.

SIGN, COMMUNICATE, CONNECT

Introduction to Sign Language

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



Overview

In this elective students will get the opportunity to learn the basics of sign language and non-verbal communication. Students will learn and use a range of skills including fingerspelling, everyday signs, greetings, questions and conversational phrases.

They will also learn about facial expressions and body language and why these are important when communicating through sign language. Students will practise signing through games, role play and real-life scenarios, helping to build confidence and communication skills. We will also explore Deaf culture and think about the importance of inclusive communication in everyday life.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Teamwork and collaboration | Leadership | Communication | Respect | Empathy and awareness

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Sign, Communicate, Connect: Introduction to Sign Language** helps you develop communication skills, empathy and cultural awareness - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in education, healthcare, social care, customer service, and public services.

You'll learn how to communicate clearly using both verbal and non-verbal methods, follow structured language systems and adapt communication for different people and situations. This course also builds confidence, memory skills, and teamwork, showing that you can develop practical communication skills that support inclusive and accessible environments.

SPELL, SCORE, SUCCEED

Scrabble Skills

Open to:

✓ All year groups



Overview

In this elective students will develop their vocabulary, spelling accuracy and strategic thinking through the game of Scrabble. Students will learn how to build high-scoring words, use premium squares effectively and apply tactics to block opponents and maximise their own points.

Sessions will include rule explanation, vocabulary-building activities, timed challenges and structured competitive play in a supportive and engaging environment. Students will also explore word roots, prefixes, suffixes and patterns to strengthen both their game performance and literacy skills. The aim is to build confidence with language while developing logical and strategic thinking.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Vocabulary development | Spelling accuracy | strategic thinking

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Spell, Score, Succeed: Scrabble Skills** helps you develop literacy, analytical thinking and strategic planning - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in English, journalism, law, education, marketing, communications and business.

You will strengthen your vocabulary, improve your spelling accuracy and learn how to think critically under time pressure. The course also builds confidence, resilience and competitive awareness, demonstrating your ability to apply knowledge strategically in both academic and real-world contexts.

WARHAMMER ALLIANCE

Build, Paint, Battle

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will be introduced to the exciting world of Warhammer, combining creativity, strategy and tabletop gaming. Students will learn how to build and assemble miniature models, develop painting techniques to bring their characters to life, and play tactical games using their completed miniatures.

Throughout the course, students will explore the different stages of the Warhammer hobby: collecting, building, painting and playing. They will learn modelling and painting skills, create unique colour schemes and designs, and develop strategic thinking through tabletop battles and challenges. Sessions will encourage creativity, patience and collaboration in a fun and supportive environment. Warhammer Alliance was specifically developed to help young people improve skills in art, design, literacy, mathematics, critical thinking and teamwork through engaging hobby activities.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Strategic thinking | Creativity | Critical thinking | Problem solving | Planning and organisation

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Warhammer Alliance: Build, Paint, Battle** helps you develop creativity, strategic thinking and problem-solving skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in art and design, engineering, architecture, game design, product design, project management, teaching and the creative industries.

You'll learn how to follow technical instructions, plan and complete long-term projects, think tactically, and make decisions based on changing circumstances. The course also develops mathematical reasoning, literacy, artistic skills and social confidence through collaborative gameplay and creative expression. Warhammer Alliance identifies links to STEM subjects, art and design, literacy, critical thinking and independent learning, making it a powerful blend of creativity and academic development.

WIZARDS, WORDS AND WONDER

The Magic of Science and Storytelling

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

Step into a world where science and storytelling collide! In this elective, you'll uncover the real-world science behind the magic of the wizarding world. From the chemistry of potions to the psychology of fear, from spells that defy gravity to creatures inspired by mythology, you'll explore how imagination and scientific thinking combine to create believable worlds of wonder.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Attention to detail | Creativity | Written communication | Presentation and public speaking

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Wizards, Words and Wonder: The Magic of Science and Storytelling** helps you develop creativity, communication, and critical thinking - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in science, writing, media, education, and the arts. You'll learn how to explore scientific concepts through storytelling, making complex ideas engaging and accessible.

This course also builds research, problem-solving, and presentation skills, showing that you can combine imagination with logic to inform, entertain, and inspire others.

BOUNCE TO SUCCESS

Trampolining skills

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will get the opportunity to develop the key skills and techniques needed for safe and successful trampolining. Students will learn and practise a range of basic and intermediate skills including straight jumps, tuck jumps, pike jumps, straddle jumps, seat drops, front drops and simple routines. They will also develop an understanding of body control, balance, coordination and safe landing techniques.

Lessons will include skill progressions, individual practice, partner feedback and opportunities to perform routines. Students will focus on improving technique, confidence and consistency while working towards linking skills together into flowing sequences. The elective will provide a fun and challenging way to improve fitness and physical literacy in a supportive environment.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Concentration and focus | Balance and coordination | Communication | Spatial awareness | Risk assessment and safety awareness

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Bounce to Success: Trampolining Skills** helps you develop discipline, resilience and body awareness - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in sport, coaching, physiotherapy, fitness, dance, performing arts and the wider health and wellbeing sector.

You'll learn how to set goals, refine techniques through practice and evaluate performance to make improvements. This course also builds confidence, focus and determination, demonstrating your ability to work safely, persevere through challenges and perform under pressure.

CHOP, SPICE, SIZZLE

A Journey through Global Cooking

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will get the opportunity to cook a variety of multicultural dishes from around the world. Students will learn and use a range of skills including knife skills, safe food preparation, measuring ingredients accurately, using herbs and spices and learning different cooking methods such as frying, baking, simmering and grilling.

The dishes will include a selection of meals, snacks and street foods inspired by different countries and cultures. We will also have sessions where we taste a range of international foods and think about what makes them different, the ingredients and flavours used and which ones we like and why.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem-solving | Following instructions | Numeracy | Communication skills | Teamwork | Patience

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Chop, Spice, Sizzle: A Journey Through Global Cooking** helps you develop precision, creativity, and problem-solving skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in culinary arts, food science, hospitality and nutrition.

You'll learn how to follow processes, experiment with techniques and adapt recipes while paying attention to detail. This course also builds time management, patience and teamwork skills, showing that you can combine scientific thinking with creative flair to produce consistent, high-quality results.

DESIGN, MAKE, WEAR

Jewellery Studio

Open to:

✓ All year groups

PHYSICAL HEALTH
& WELLBEING

Overview

In this elective, students will explore the creative and practical techniques behind jewellery making. From beading and wirework to decorative and recycled materials, you'll learn how to design and craft unique pieces that express personal style and artistic flair. Along the way, you'll develop skills in planning, precision, and creative problem-solving - turning everyday materials into beautiful, meaningful creations. Whether you're inspired by fashion, storytelling, or craftsmanship, this course offers a hands-on journey into the art of jewellery design.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem solving | Attention to detail | Creativity and innovation | Perseverance | Collaboration

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Design, Make, Wear: Jewellery Studio** helps you develop creativity, precision, and problem-solving skills that are valuable for future study and careers in jewellery design, fashion, product design, and the arts. You'll learn how to plan, craft, and refine intricate pieces, improving your attention to detail, patience, and hand-eye coordination.

This course also builds project management and creative thinking skills, showing that you can turn imaginative ideas into polished, tangible results - a skill set valued in many professional fields.

FOLD, CREATE, MASTER

The Art of Origami

Open to:

✓ All year groups



Overview

In this elective students will be introduced to the traditional Japanese art of origami, learning how to transform a simple sheet of paper into detailed and creative designs. Students will learn and practise a range of folding techniques, gradually progressing from simple models to more complex creations such as animals, flowers, geometric shapes and decorative pieces.

Each session will include clear modelling of folding techniques, step-by-step guidance and independent creative practice. Students will develop accuracy, patience and focus while exploring symmetry, pattern and structure. The elective will also introduce students to the cultural origins of origami and how it has evolved into both an art form and a mathematical study of design.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Fine motor skills | Hand-eye coordination | Logical thinking | Precision and attention to detail

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Fold, Create, Master: The Art of Origami** helps you develop precision, spatial awareness and problem-solving skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in art and design, architecture, engineering, mathematics, product design and education.

You will learn how to follow complex instructions carefully, visualise shapes in three dimensions and refine techniques through practice. This course also builds perseverance, concentration and creativity, demonstrating your ability to combine logical thinking with artistic expression.

LOOP, KNIT, CROCHET

Creative Yarn Craft

Open to:

✓ All year groups



Overview

In this elective students will learn the creative and practical skills involved in yarn crafts such as knitting and crocheting. Students will be introduced to basic techniques including casting on, simple stitches, pattern following, colour changes and creating small handmade projects.

Lessons will combine teacher modelling, guided practice and independent crafting time, allowing students to gradually build confidence and accuracy in their work. Students may create items such as bookmarks, coasters, small decorations, simple accessories or collaborative projects while developing patience, concentration and creativity.

The elective will also explore how yarn crafts have been used across cultures and generations, highlighting both their artistic and practical value. The aim is to develop practical crafting skills while promoting relaxation, mindfulness and creative expression.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Creativity | Fine motor skills | Hand-eye coordination | Patience and perseverance | Concentration

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Loop, Knit, Crochet: Creative Yarn Craft** helps you develop creativity, patience and attention to detail - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in fashion, textile design, costume design, interior design, art, education and the wider creative industries.

You'll learn how to follow patterns accurately, solve practical problems and refine techniques through practice and perseverance. This course also builds focus, independence and fine motor skills, demonstrating your ability to combine creativity with precision and practical craftsmanship.

MIND, MUSCLE AND MOVEMENT

The Craft of Badminton

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

Learn the fundamental skills of badminton through a range of fun and engaging drills and match play activities. We will develop key techniques such as serving, overhead clears, drop shots and smashes, as well as focusing on footwork, positioning and game tactics. Students will have the opportunity to play both singles and doubles matches to build confidence and understanding of the game. For those who play badminton outside of school, there will be opportunities to further challenge skills through competitive games and advanced drills.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Athleticism | Teamwork | Goal setting | Time management | Discipline | Self-motivation

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Mind, Muscle and Movement: The Craft of Badminton** helps you develop focus, discipline, and strategic thinking - skills that are valuable for future study and careers in sports, coaching, education and health. You'll improve coordination, decision-making and teamwork as you learn techniques, tactics and match strategies. This course also builds resilience, goal-setting and time management skills, showing that you can combine physical ability with mental sharpness to achieve success both on and off the court.

MYTHIC MAKERS

Sculpting Beasts in Clay

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In **Mythic Makers: Sculpting Beasts in Clay**, students will explore the imaginative world of mythical creatures through the lens of artist Karolina Romanowska. Drawing inspiration from her sculptural practice, students will research mythical beasts from various cultures and use their findings to design and create their own unique clay beast mask. Throughout the elective, they will develop their creative making skills by experimenting with clay techniques and surface design, while also strengthening their creative visual language through drawing, design development, and reflective discussion.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Creativity | Visual communication | Resilience | Adaptability | Analysis skills | Problem-solving
Active listening

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Choosing **Mythic Makers: Sculpting Beasts in Clay** helps you build creativity, imagination, and design skills that link directly to future study and careers in art, design, animation, game development, and even engineering. You'll learn how to plan, problem-solve, and bring original ideas to life through hands-on sculpting. This kind of creative thinking and attention to detail is highly valued in many fields, showing that you can think outside the box and turn imaginative concepts into real, tangible results.

POWER AND PLAY

The Spirit of Girls' Football

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



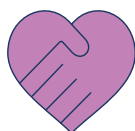
Overview

Each week, we'll focus on building your skills, improving your teamwork, and getting match-ready for school competitions. You'll mostly play in your favourite position, but we'll also mix things up - trying out new formations and learning how to play smart, fast, and strong. Make sure to bring your football boots, shin pads, and socks every week - we'll be training hard and having fun! We'll also take part in Tameside cup games against other schools, so get ready to travel, compete, and show off your school pride! Come along, work hard, and let's make some football magic happen!

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Teamwork and collaboration | Leadership | Resilience | Decision making | Communication
Respect | Discipline

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Power and Play: The Spirit of Girls' Football** helps you develop teamwork, leadership, and resilience - skills that are valuable for future study and careers in sports, coaching, education, and health. You'll learn how to communicate effectively on and off the field, make strategic decisions under pressure, and work collaboratively to achieve shared goals.

This course also builds discipline, confidence, and time management, showing that you can combine physical skill with mental focus and determination to succeed both in sport and beyond.

SWIRL, PIPE, FINISH

Cake Decorating Skills

Open to:

✓ All year groups



Overview

In this elective students will get the opportunity to decorate a variety of cakes and sweet treats using a range of creative techniques. Students will learn and use a range of skills including piping techniques, working with buttercream and icing, using fondant, creating simple sugar decorations and presenting finished cupcakes neatly and professionally.

The cakes and bakes will include cupcakes, cookies, gingerbread and themed decorated cupcakes. We will also have sessions where we look at different cake designs and decorating styles, thinking about what makes them effective and which designs we like and why.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Creativity | Attention to detail | Problem-solving | Time management | Patience and perseverance

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Swirl, Pipe, Finish: Cake Decorating Skills** helps you develop precision, creativity, and attention to detail - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in culinary arts, hospitality, food production and event catering.

You'll learn how to follow processes, practise and refine decorating techniques and adapt designs while working neatly and accurately. This course also builds time management, patience and teamwork skills, showing that you can combine technical skill with creative flair to produce professional, high-quality finished cakes and sweet treats.

THREADS OF THOUGHT

The Art and Craft of Cross-Stitch

Open to:

✓ All year groups



Overview

This elective explores cross-stitch as both a traditional craft and a contemporary medium for creative expression. Students will learn the fundamentals of stitching techniques while also examining the cultural and historical significance of embroidery across different societies. Through hands-on projects and reflective practice, students will develop their own stitched artworks. Threads of Thought encourages mindful making - where patience, precision, and creativity come together in every stitch.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem-solving | Creativity and innovation | Perseverance | Project management

Which value does this link with?



How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Threads of Thought: The Art and Craft of Cross-Stitch** helps you develop patience, attention to detail, and creativity - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in textile design, fashion, art, and craft-related industries. You'll learn how to plan intricate designs, work with precision, and bring ideas to life through careful craftsmanship.

This course also builds focus, perseverance, and project management skills, showing that you can combine creativity with meticulous execution to produce high-quality, visually engaging work.

BRAND IT, BUILD IT, PITCH IT

Young Entrepreneurs

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will work in pairs to develop their own business idea for a product or service. From initial concept to final pitch, students will generate a brand identity, design a logo, create a slogan and select a celebrity endorsement to strengthen their marketing strategy. They will also design a simple app concept and build a website to showcase their product.

Throughout the project, students will explore key elements of entrepreneurship including target audience research, budgeting, marketing and persuasive presentation skills. The elective will culminate in a professional-style pitch to a senior member of staff, where students will present their business idea in a "Mini Dragons' Den" style competition. An overall winning team will be selected based on creativity, viability, branding and presentation.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Creativity & innovation | Strategic thinking | Problem-solving | Leadership | Teamwork | Digital literacy

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Brand It, Build It, Pitch It: Young Entrepreneurs** helps you develop creativity, leadership and commercial awareness - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in business, marketing, finance, economics, digital media, product design and management.

You will learn how to generate and refine ideas, understand branding and target markets, communicate persuasively and work collaboratively under deadlines. This course also builds confidence in public speaking, strategic thinking, financial awareness and digital skills, demonstrating your ability to take a concept from idea to professional presentation.

BUILD FOR BIODIVERSITY

Beds for Bugs, Bats and Birds

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective, students will explore practical ways to support local wildlife and improve biodiversity through creative environmental projects. Students will design and build habitats such as bug hotels and bird boxes while learning about ecosystems, pollinators, food chains and the importance of conservation.

Lessons will combine hands-on construction activities with environmental learning, helping students understand how small actions can positively impact local habitats and wildlife populations. Students will also explore sustainable materials, safe tool use and how to design structures suited to different species and environments.

The aim of the course is to encourage environmental responsibility, practical problem-solving and a greater appreciation of the natural world through meaningful, real-world projects.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Environmental awareness | Problem-solving | Teamwork | Planning and organisation | Creativity

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in Build for **Biodiversity: Beds for Bugs, Bats and Birds** helps you develop environmental awareness, teamwork and practical design skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in environmental science, conservation, ecology, construction, landscaping, engineering and outdoor education. You'll learn how to plan and create purposeful designs, work safely with materials and tools and understand the importance of sustainability and biodiversity. This course also builds resilience, creativity and responsibility, demonstrating your ability to contribute positively to both your community and the environment.

CHORUS TO CONCERT

The Power of Performance

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups - by invitation only



Overview

Join us in music for our brand-new concert elective, where singers from Years 7 to 10 prepare for a major school performance. Students will choose songs they love, develop their vocal skills, and work together to create an exciting, high-quality show. If you enjoy singing and want to be part of a fun, creative project with a fantastic final performance, this is the elective for you! Please note that all students in this elective will be expected to perform.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem-solving | Critical thinking | Resilience | Creativity | Strategic planning

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Chorus to Concert: The Power of Performance** helps you develop confidence, teamwork, and communication skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in music, performing arts, education, and event management. You'll learn how to rehearse, perform, and collaborate with others to deliver polished musical presentations.

This course also builds discipline, creativity, and time management skills, showing that you can combine artistic expression with focus and collaboration to achieve powerful, memorable performances.

KINDNESS IN ACTION

Creating Positive Change

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



Overview

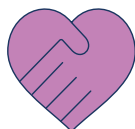
Kindness in Action is a creative, community-focused elective designed to help students make a real difference through acts of kindness and charity work. The elective gives students the opportunity to plan and take part in a variety of fun and rewarding projects that support both the school and local community.

Students will take the lead in organising and running small charity events - such as bake sales, sponsored challenges, and donation drives - while also building meaningful connections with local care homes, charities and community groups. Activities might include writing letters or creating care packages for elderly residents, collecting items for local food banks or hosting awareness campaigns for chosen causes.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Empathy | Organisation | Teamwork and collaboration | Communication | Leadership

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Kindness in Action: Creating Positive Change aims to build empathy, confidence, and a lasting sense of social responsibility - all while having fun and working together for a good cause. It will foster business management skills and through public speaking, support leadership roles that are evident in many career paths today. Through these projects, students will learn how kindness can create positive change, develop essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and communication, and experience the joy of giving back.

LEGO

The Missing Piece

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this hands-on elective, students will use LEGO as a practical tool for teamwork, communication and problem-solving. Working in small groups, students will complete a range of guided building challenges, using LEGO to construct creative models and structures.

Throughout the term, students will need to communicate effectively, share ideas clearly and work together to successfully complete each build. Teams will develop their ability to listen to others, allocate roles and support one another to achieve a shared goal.

This elective develops key skills in teamwork, communication, resilience and collaboration, while also linking to real-world engineering and construction teamwork. By the end of the course, students will be more confident working with others to complete practical tasks under time and design constraints.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem-solving | Patience | Resilience | Collaboration | Communication

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **LEGO: The Missing Piece** helps you develop communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in engineering, design, construction, project management and a wide range of collaborative industries.

You will learn how to work effectively as part of a team, follow instructions accurately and adapt your approach when challenges arise. This course also builds patience, resilience and cooperation skills, showing that you can contribute to shared goals and complete practical tasks through effective teamwork and communication.

PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

Art Culture Club

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will embark on a journey around the world, exploring a wide range of cultures, traditions, languages and celebrations. Each student will create their own Culture Passport, which will be stamped each week as they engage with a new country, culture or tradition.

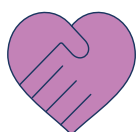
Students will learn greetings and key phrases from different languages, explore cultural customs and celebrations and take part in creative activities inspired by communities around the world. Activities may include creating decorations for Día de los Muertos, designing Chinese zodiac artwork, exploring Egyptian hieroglyphics, participating in Aboriginal storytelling and learning about festivals, food, music and traditions from a variety of cultures.

The elective will also play an important role in supporting whole-school culture celebrations, helping students contribute ideas, displays and activities for themed celebration weeks throughout the year. Through exploration, creativity and discussion, students will develop a greater understanding of the diverse world around them.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Cultural awareness | Global citizenship | Communication | Empathy | Respect for diversity | Creativity

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Passport to the World: Art Culture Club** helps you develop cultural awareness, communication and global understanding - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in education, international business, tourism, hospitality, languages, diplomacy, social work and public services. You'll learn how to appreciate different perspectives, communicate respectfully with people from diverse backgrounds and engage positively with global issues and traditions. This course also builds creativity, curiosity, empathy and confidence, demonstrating your ability to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

PATTERNS OF INDIA

Art, Culture and Design

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

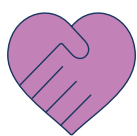
In this elective students will explore a range of traditional Indian art forms while learning about the cultural meaning behind them. Students will take part in hands-on creative activities such as creating Rangoli floor art using coloured powders, designing and decorating diyas (traditional clay lamps), henna, exploring Mehndi-inspired pattern design and creating detailed mandala geometry artwork.

Each session will introduce the cultural background and significance of the art form before students practise techniques and develop their own designs. Activities will focus on colour, symmetry, pattern and creativity while encouraging careful design and attention to detail. The aim is to build artistic confidence while developing an appreciation for global cultures and traditions.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Creativity | Cultural awareness | Pattern recognition | Appreciation of global cultures

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Patterns of India: Art, Culture and Design** helps you develop creativity, cultural awareness, and design thinking - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in art and design, architecture, fashion, interior design, education and cultural studies.

You will learn how artistic traditions reflect cultural identity and symbolism, while also developing practical design and pattern-making skills. This course also builds patience, precision and visual creativity, demonstrating your ability to combine artistic expression with cultural understanding.

WORDS THAT WIN

The Power and Practice of Debate

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



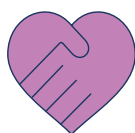
Overview

This elective allows students to get a taste for the art of debate and explore real-world topics within the school environment. Students will learn how to effectively research a range of topics, build their viewpoints and argue them with their peers - with the opportunity to potentially debate other teams from schools within the area. From fun practice rounds leading up to debates around hard-hitting headlines, Words That Win asks students to cut through the noise and find the sticking points that hit home - developing their critical thinking skills, resilience, public speaking and writing ability in one fell swoop.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Confidence | Self-motivation | Public speaking | Persuasiveness | Active listening

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Words That Win: The Power and Practice of Debate** helps you develop communication, critical thinking and persuasive skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in law, politics, media and business. You'll learn how to construct arguments, analyse information and respond confidently under pressure. This course also builds research, teamwork and public speaking skills, showing that you can think logically, express ideas clearly and influence others effectively.

£50 CHALLENGE

Grow it, Fund it, Change Lives

Open to:

✓ Years 7 & 8



Overview

In this elective students will take part in a real-life enterprise challenge, working as a team to grow an initial £50 investment into the largest possible fundraising total for Willow Wood Hospice. Students will develop and deliver their own fundraising ideas, organise events, promote campaigns and manage finances while working towards a fundraising target.

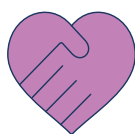
Throughout the challenge, students will explore entrepreneurship, marketing, budgeting, event planning and teamwork. They will have the opportunity to design promotional materials, engage with the wider school community and track their progress as they work towards their goal. The elective will culminate in the Willow Wood Challenge awards ceremony, where teams will celebrate their achievements and the impact they have made on their local community.

By taking part, students will support a vital local charity while gaining valuable real-world experience in leadership, enterprise and project management.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Teamwork | Leadership | Communication | Public speaking | Entrepreneurship | Financial awareness

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **£50 Challenge: Grow It, Fund It, Change Lives** helps you develop leadership, communication, and commercial awareness - qualities that are highly valued in further education, apprenticeships and careers across business, marketing, finance, public services, event management, charity work and entrepreneurship.

You'll learn how to manage budgets, plan projects, promote ideas, solve problems and work effectively as part of a team. The course also develops confidence, resilience, creativity and community awareness, demonstrating your ability to make a positive impact while delivering a successful project from start to finish.

 RESPECT
RESILIENCE
ASPIRATION