



Longdendale
HIGH SCHOOL

ENRICHMENT ELECTIVES

YEARS 9 & 10



Longdendale
HIGH SCHOOL



**STAMFORD
PARK TRUST**



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

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BEYOND THE BOARD

The Mind and Mastery of Chess

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



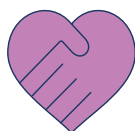
Overview

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 9



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.

FOOTBALL BY NUMBERS

Data, Strategy and Performance

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

In this Football by Numbers elective, students will research, study and interpret commonly used data metrics to assess how reliable the data is and whether it can truly determine what constitutes a 'good' football player. We will work together to determine Best XIs, taking current data into account, as well as set up a Fantasy Football team based on the use of data.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Data analysis | Teamwork | Critical thinking | Decision-making

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Football by Numbers: Data, Strategy and Performance** helps you develop analytical, mathematical, and problem-solving skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in sports science, data analysis, coaching, and business. You'll learn how to use data to understand player performance, tactics, and strategy, applying statistics to real sporting situations.

This course also builds teamwork, critical thinking, and decision-making skills, showing that you can combine a passion for sport with a scientific approach to achieving success.

MOVIES UNCOVERED

Secrets of the Screen

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

In this elective students will explore the world of film through viewing, discussion and analysis of a range of genres and styles. Students will learn how films are constructed, including camera angles, lighting, sound, editing, narrative structure and character development.

Sessions will include watching key scenes, analysing techniques, exploring themes and messages and discussing how directors influence audience reactions. Students may also have the opportunity to plan and storyboard their own short film ideas, developing an understanding of the creative process behind filmmaking. The aim is to build critical thinking skills while developing a deeper appreciation of cinema as both entertainment and an art form.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Critical thinking | Analytical reasoning | Visual literacy | Communication | Discussion and debate skills

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Frame by Frame: Understanding Film** helps you develop analytical thinking, creativity, and communication skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in media, journalism, marketing, advertising, performing arts, digital content creation and education.

You'll learn how to interpret visual information, evaluate meaning, present opinions clearly and support ideas with evidence. This course also builds confidence in discussion and debate, demonstrating your ability to think critically about media in an increasingly digital world.

PARLA ITALIANO

Introduction to Italian Language

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

In this elective students will be introduced to the basics of the Italian language while exploring aspects of Italian culture and everyday life. Students will learn and practise key vocabulary and conversational phrases including greetings, introductions, numbers, food, travel and simple questions and responses.

Lessons will involve speaking and listening activities, games, short dialogues and interactive tasks designed to build confidence in using a new language. Students will also explore elements of Italian culture such as traditions, food, famous landmarks and festivals to help place the language in its real-world context.

The aim of the course is to develop curiosity about languages and cultures while building the confidence to communicate using basic Italian phrases and expressions.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Communication | Listening skills | Verbal confidence | Memory and recall | Cultural awareness

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Parla Italiano: Introduction to Italian Language** helps you develop communication, memory and cultural awareness - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in modern foreign languages, international business, travel and tourism, hospitality, education and diplomacy.

You will learn how languages are structured, how to communicate clearly in unfamiliar situations and how cultural understanding supports effective communication. This course also builds confidence, listening skills and adaptability, demonstrating your ability to engage with the wider world.

PAWS, CLAWS & CARE

The Animal Wellbeing Project

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



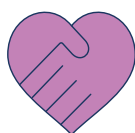
Overview

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.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Developing Technique & Creative Composition

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

This elective is an opportunity to explore photography as an art form and study the photography of others. Within this elective we will learn about the technical aspects of composition and intention in photography. All students are encouraged to be actively involved in discussions and practical activities, as well as being prepared to bring in props for staging compositions. Students will have the opportunity to work in groups to complete a weekly photography based challenge to apply the learning from the session. This elective is 75% theory and 25% practical, students are strongly encouraged to develop their photography skills further by practising and applying the techniques from the elective to their own photography in their own time.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Creativity | Perseverance | Problem-solving | Project management | Ability to work under pressure

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Photography in Focus: Developing Technique and Creative Composition** helps you develop creativity, technical skill, and attention to detail - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in photography, media, design, and visual arts. You'll learn how to capture images effectively while experimenting with composition, lighting, and perspective.

This course also builds problem-solving, critical thinking, and project management skills, showing that you can turn ideas into compelling visual stories.

SHUFFLE UP AND STRATEGISE

Card Game Club

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

In this elective students will be introduced to a different card game each week, developing their understanding of rules, tactics and game play. Students will learn how to play a range of classic and strategy-based card games such as Hearts, Rummy, Blackjack (non-gambling format), Uno, Go Fish, Speed and Crazy Eights. Other options may include Spoons (adapted safely), War, President, Solitaire challenges and basic Poker-hand ranking for probability learning (without gambling elements).

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Strategic thinking | Problem-solving | Decision-making | Logical reasoning

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Shuffle Up and Strategise: Card Game Club** helps you develop strategic thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in mathematics, business, computing, economics and the wider analytical and strategic professions.

You will learn how to think logically, assess risk, calculate probability and plan ahead while responding to changing situations. This course also builds communication, patience, resilience and sportsmanship, demonstrating your ability to compete positively and think critically in both individual and group settings.

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:

✓ Year 9



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.

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 in Detail: The Art and Craft of Jewellery Making** 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.

RUGBY READY

Skills, Teamwork and Tactics

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10

**PHYSICAL HEALTH
& WELLBEING**

Overview

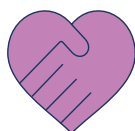
In this elective students will get the opportunity to develop the key skills and tactics needed to play rugby confidently and successfully. Students will learn and practise passing techniques, tackling skills, evasion and attacking play, defensive positioning, kicking and support play. They will also develop an understanding of game rules, teamwork and tactical decision-making during match situations.

Lessons will include skill-based drills, fitness activities, small-sided games, and competitive match play to build confidence, resilience, teamwork and overall performance. Students will also learn the importance of safe physical contact, communication and sportsmanship within the game.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Athleticism | Teamwork | Goal setting | Discipline | Self motivation

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Rugby Ready: Skills, Teamwork and Tactics** helps you develop resilience, leadership, teamwork and discipline - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in sport, coaching, teaching, physiotherapy, public services and the wider health and fitness sector.

You will learn how to communicate effectively under pressure, work collaboratively towards shared goals and apply tactical thinking in competitive situations. This course also builds confidence, determination and respect for others, demonstrating your ability to perform positively in both individual and team environments.

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?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

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.

BRAID, CURL, CREATE

The Art of Hair Design

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

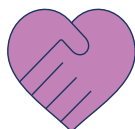
In this elective students will get the opportunity to learn and practise a variety of hair design and styling techniques. Students will learn and use a range of skills including different types of braiding, creating updos, curling techniques and basic bridal and occasion styling. They will also learn about hair preparation, sectioning and how to use styling tools safely and effectively.

Students will practise styles on training heads and, where appropriate, on each other, building confidence, creativity and technical skill. We will also look at different hair styles and trends, thinking about what makes them effective and which styles we like and why.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Attention to detail | Communication | Professionalism | Creativity | Health and Safety awareness

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Braid, Curl, Create: The Art of Hair Design** helps you develop creativity, precision and attention to detail - qualities that are valuable for future study and careers in hairdressing, barbering, beauty therapy, media makeup, theatre and the wider hospitality and events industries.

You will learn how to follow processes, practise and refine technical skills and adapt styles for different occasions and clients. This course also builds time management, patience, communication and teamwork skills, showing that you can combine technical ability with creativity to produce professional, high-quality finished styles.

BUILD FOR BIODIVERSITY

Beds for Bugs, Bats and Birds

Open to:

✓ Year 9



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.

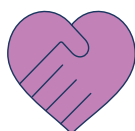
Lessons will combine hands-on construction activities with environmental learning, helping students understand how small actions can positively impact local habitats and wildlife populations. Students will also explore sustainable materials, safe tool use and how to design structures suited to different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



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.

DISCUSSION ROOM

Big Issues, Big Opinions

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

In this elective students will explore and debate some of the biggest issues affecting young people and society today. Topics may include social media, artificial intelligence, gender equality, politics, sport, relationships, freedom of speech, environmental issues, current affairs and other topics that are relevant to students' lives.

Students will learn how to construct persuasive arguments, challenge ideas respectfully, analyse evidence and communicate their opinions with confidence. Through structured debates, discussions, research tasks and panel-style activities, students will have the opportunity to explore different perspectives and develop their own informed viewpoints.

This elective provides a low-pressure environment where students can discuss important issues, have their voices heard, and develop the confidence to contribute thoughtfully to conversations about the world around them.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Communication | Critical thinking | Analytical reasoning | Research skills | Leadership | Confidence

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Discussion Room: Big Issues, Big Opinions** helps you develop communication, critical thinking and leadership skills - qualities that are highly valued in further education, apprenticeships and careers across a wide range of sectors including law, politics, journalism, business, public services, education, media and healthcare. You'll learn how to evaluate information, identify bias, build persuasive arguments and present ideas confidently to others. The course also develops resilience, empathy and the ability to engage respectfully with different viewpoints, demonstrating your readiness to participate in academic, professional and civic life.

FOUNDATIONS OF CARE

Understanding Child Development

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

The elective enables students to gain information and skills linked to elements of childcare including: basic first-aid knowledge, safety, feeding and changing as well as planning and developing activities for a group event for parent and babies/young children to access. There will be opportunities to interact with the wider community and you will be creating and making an end product suitable for learning or play with a baby or young child.

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Problem-solving | Decision making | Active listening | Written communication

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Choosing **Foundations of Care: Understanding Child Development** helps you build knowledge and skills that are valuable for future study and careers in education, healthcare, psychology, and social work. You'll learn how children grow, learn, and develop emotionally and physically, as well as how to support their needs in different settings.

This course strengthens your empathy, communication, and observation skills - qualities that are essential for anyone interested in working with or supporting others. It's a great foundation for understanding people and making a positive difference in their lives.

KINDNESS IN ACTION

Creating Positive Change

Open to:

- ✓ All year groups



Overview

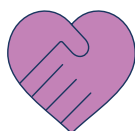
Kindness in Action is a creative, community-focused elective designed to help students make a real difference through acts of kindness and charity work. The elective gives students the opportunity to plan and take part in a variety of fun and rewarding projects that support both the school and local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

PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

Art Culture Club

Open to:

✓ Year 9



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.

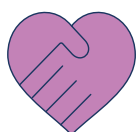
Students will learn greetings and key phrases from different languages, explore cultural customs and celebrations and take part in creative activities inspired by communities around the world. Activities may include creating decorations for Día de los Muertos, designing Chinese zodiac artwork, exploring 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.

SURVIVAL

Rescue and Emergency Response

Open to:

✓ Years 9 & 10



Overview

In this elective students will develop the knowledge and practical skills needed to respond to emergencies, survive challenging situations and work effectively as part of a rescue team. Combining first aid, survival skills and problem-solving challenges, this course is designed to be hands-on, engaging and full of real-world applications.

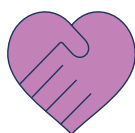
Students will take part in a range of practical activities including shelter building, water purification experiments, casualty rescue scenarios, stretcher construction, navigation challenges, injury simulations and emergency response exercises. They will learn how to assess risks, provide basic first aid, communicate effectively under pressure and make important decisions when faced with unexpected situations.

Throughout the course, students will work collaboratively to solve problems, complete rescue missions and tackle survival-based challenges that test their teamwork, leadership and resilience. The elective will culminate in a large-scale survival and rescue exercise where students will put their new skills into practice. This is a practical and active elective that encourages students to think critically, work together and develop skills that could one day help them assist others in an emergency. No previous experience is required - just a willingness to get involved, challenge yourself and have a go!

What transferable skills will I develop through studying this elective?

Teamwork | Leadership | Problem-solving | Decision-making | Communication | Adaptability

Which value does this link with?



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

How does this elective support future study & careers?

Taking part in **Survival, Rescue and Emergency Response** helps you develop confidence, leadership, teamwork and decision-making skills that are highly valued in education and the workplace. Students will learn how to remain calm under pressure, assess situations effectively, communicate clearly and work collaboratively to solve problems. The knowledge gained can provide a useful foundation for future study and careers in healthcare, emergency services, outdoor education, the military, sports coaching, teaching, public services and many other professions.

£50 CHALLENGE

Grow it, Fund it, Change Lives

Open to:

✓ Year 9



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.

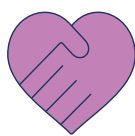
Throughout the challenge, students will explore entrepreneurship, marketing, budgeting, event planning and teamwork. They will have the opportunity to design promotional materials, engage with the wider school community and track their progress as they work towards their goal. The elective will culminate 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