



# SHENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Shenfield High School  
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## Newsletter

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Autumn Term 2 – December 2021

### News from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

Once again we near the end of a busy term, not only focusing on the educational achievements of our young people but also on keeping students and staff safe in the face of the Omicron variant of Covid19. We continue to follow all government guidelines while ensuring that students have the education and experience of school we all want them to have – they have missed out on so much.

Many thanks to parents who have supplied their children with face coverings and encouraged them to wear them in communal areas and on transport to and from school since government guidance changed. It is appreciated.

We finish school for the term at 12 noon on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December and buses have been ordered for this time. Can I ask that you ensure that your children have a specific arrangement for the afternoon – that they go straight home or have an agreed arrangement otherwise. It is very important that our students conduct themselves appropriately and do not gather in large groups in Brentwood or Shenfield, or outside other schools, as this can give the wrong impression to neighbours and community members. Thank you for your support with this.

We return to school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022. We will be conducting lateral flow tests on this day for all students for whom we have received

consent previously or by the deadline of Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. We are unable to accept further communications of consent beyond this date. Please ensure that your child tests twice weekly during the holiday using the LFT tests we have provided. In particular, please ensure they take a test the evening before they return to school. Thank you for your support with this so that we can ensure there is as little infection transmission as possible and the school can continue to function normally.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of our news.

Yours sincerely

Carole Herman  
Headteacher

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### News from the Chair of Governors

Although the challenges posed by the pandemic are still with us, the school continues to do everything it can to support students in their learning and wellbeing. The community spirit is a strength of our school and we are grateful for the continuing support of parents. It is much appreciated. Governors would like to thank staff for all their hard work. They are doing a remarkable job in difficult circumstances.

Congratulations to Vicki Noonan who was elected as our newest parent governor in October. We hope that when a vacancy arises parents will consider putting their name forward. The parental perspective is both useful and valued. The governing body recognises the importance of building stronger links with parents. This has

been difficult due to the pandemic as most school events have been virtual. However, as we move slowly towards normality, we hope there will be more opportunities for governors to meet parents at these events. We have recently resumed in-person governor visits and it was wonderful to once again meet some of our students. Children have suffered so much due to the pandemic, but their obvious enjoyment at being in school with their teachers and friends was clear to see.

If you would like to contact governors please email our clerk Karen Whordley at [k.whordley@shenfield.essex.sch.uk](mailto:k.whordley@shenfield.essex.sch.uk). Governor details can be found on the school website under governor information.

We wish you all an enjoyable Christmas.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Jane Swettenham  
On behalf of the governors of Shenfield School

know when something doesn't feel right or something has changed and that's when we investigate, mainly by talking to the child.

This first video is just over 9 minutes in length. Over a period of time you will receive another 6 emails from school, all with a link to a new video and some accompanying text. In some of the emails I will also include useful links, all of which will take you to free information and resources. There is nothing where you have to pay for anything.

Although much of the information is okay for children, there is some information within the videos that is not appropriate, so please take appropriate precautions when watching any of the videos (e.g. wear headphones). There is also a subtitles option on each video, just look for CC at the bottom right of the video.

Just click on the link or copy/paste the link into your browser.

<https://vimeo.com/507909807/31d8b998bd>

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## Online Safety Advisor

Whatever the age of your child they will receive good online safety education in school, from early years through to college. But as parents and carers we need to know about and keep up with the risks and issues our children may face online. Importantly, we also need to know where to go for extra support.

My name is Alan Mackenzie. I specialise in the ever-changing and evolving area of online safety, mainly working in schools all over England and in this first video I will quickly introduce myself and define what online safety means. Many people think that online safety means keeping children safe online. That is correct, but it's much more than that.

One of the most important messages I would like to get across is that you can't know everything, neither can you watch your child 24/7. But as parents and carers we have natural curiosity; we

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## Attendance

Please note the email address to use for all attendance matters including enquires, queries and absences is:-

[attendance@shenfield.essex.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@shenfield.essex.sch.uk)

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# Pastoral Team

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## Who to contact in the Pastoral Team

Year	Pastoral Manager	Head of Year
7	Mrs Wood <a href="mailto:s.wood@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">s.wood@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Miss Murphy <a href="mailto:a.murphy@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">a.murphy@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
8	Mrs Kalaitzis <a href="mailto:k.kalaitzis@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">k.kalaitzis@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Mr Acquah <a href="mailto:i.acquah@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">i.acquah@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
9	Mrs Hodgson-Wild <a href="mailto:a.hodgson-wild@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">a.hodgson-wild@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Miss Arnold <a href="mailto:t.arnold@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">t.arnold@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
10	Mrs Allen <a href="mailto:j.allen@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">j.allen@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Mr Chapman <a href="mailto:p.chapman@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">p.chapman@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
11	Ms East <a href="mailto:v.east@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">v.east@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Ms Dyson <a href="mailto:c.dyson@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">c.dyson@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>

Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Walker <a href="mailto:j.walker@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">j.walker@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
Student Services	Mrs Purbrick <a href="mailto:l.purbrick@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">l.purbrick@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
Pastoral Coordinator	Miss Day <a href="mailto:g.day@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">g.day@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
Assistant Headteacher	Mr Rigg - Behaviour and Standards <a href="mailto:j.rigg@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">j.rigg@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>

# KS5 Pastoral Team

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## Who to contact in the Key Stage 5 Pastoral Team

Year	Pastoral Manager	Head of Year
12	Mrs Downey <a href="mailto:c.downey@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">c.downey@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Mrs Knight <a href="mailto:a.knight@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">a.knight@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
13	Mrs Panayi <a href="mailto:e.panayi@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">e.panayi@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>	Mr Bishop <a href="mailto:t.bishop@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">t.bishop@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>

Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Dunn <a href="mailto:j.dunn@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">j.dunn@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
Assistant Head of Sixth Form	Mr Macdonald <a href="mailto:j.macdonald@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">j.macdonald@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>
Head of Sixth Form	Mr Cooke <a href="mailto:a.cooke@shenfield.essex.sch.uk">a.cooke@shenfield.essex.sch.uk</a>

[Link to the Curriculum and PREP Newsletters for Years 7 to 11](#)

# Important information

## Trips, Visits and Events

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### Brass Group Performance



On Thursday evening, a number of the Music Departments Brass Group went to Shenfield High Street to play Christmas carols and spread Christmas cheer. Thank you to the students and staff who took part.

### Sixth Form Peer Mentoring Programme



The Sixth Form Peer Mentoring Programme supports younger students in our school. This gathering was a great way for mentors and mentees to spend time together.

### Support required for our Careers Department.

I am Mrs Utton, Careers Administrator at Shenfield High School. Part of my role is to co-ordinate and run careers events for students who attend SHS.

Some of the events include:

- In house Careers Fair – October
- Employer Engagement Day - April
- Practice Interview Day - July
- Employability Soft Skills Y7 – spring
- Advanced Employability Soft Skills Y8 – spring
- Careers Talks within Industry – November/February
- Y12 Work Experience – July

If you, a friend or family member would like to support us with the above event/s in the future, or you would like a brief explanation of each event before committing, please email Mrs Utton [l.utton@shenfield.essex.sch.uk](mailto:l.utton@shenfield.essex.sch.uk)



# Sport

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## Congratulations to our Cross-Country runners on a superb season



Shenfield won 5 of the 8 different age group races at the Brentwood District competition before claiming 5 top-3 team positions in the Mid Essex Championships. Our U14 boys claimed the Mid Essex title and the U14 boys B team even finished 4th out of the 22 schools that entered.

Our runners then competed in the National Cross-Country Cup where they really excelled. The U13 boys and girls and U15 boys all came first in our Essex region to qualify for the South East England regional finals which will take place next Saturday 13th November in Southend.

Congratulations to everyone who has run for the school already this year but especially to these runners who will compete next Saturday. They really are putting Shenfield on the map as an elite school for cross-country.

## Year 8 student has been selected for the Essex Race Ski team

Tristan began learning to ski July in 2020 in readiness for a ski holiday, and went on to be selected for the Essex Race Ski team in December 2020.



He has recently entered the National Schools Ski Racing League, representing Shenfield, and competed in his first race at Welwyn, Herts on the 28th November, finishing in 2nd place. He will now continue to compete in upcoming races to try to get to the finals in May 2022.

He has still never been on a skiing holiday thanks to Covid 😊

## Parents Association

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You can contact the PTA for any of the above projects via:

Email: [shspa@shenfield.essex.sch.uk](mailto:shspa@shenfield.essex.sch.uk)

Twitter: [@shs\\_pta](https://twitter.com/shs_pta)

Or Facebook

All the money we raise goes to help the school provide better resources for our children. Please do support us where you can! If you would be willing to join the SHSPTA then we'd love to hear from you. Not much time is needed just an hour or so here and there - whatever you can spare!