



16 April 2024

Dear Parents

Just a quick note so you know what is planned for this term.

All information about what has already been taught, what students are studying now and what will follow is available here:

[Curriculum | The Academy at Shotton Hall \(shottonhallacademy.co.uk\)](https://www.shottonhallacademy.co.uk/curriculum)

Students have access to all of the teaching resources to support learning outside of the classroom through student POD. Please ask that they show you this and find out where they are up to in each subject. Information on every end of year/key stage assessment is also available on POD.

We will be continuing the work with students to help them get organised in terms of prior reading, self-study, revision, time management, locating and using resources, and independence. I'll be in touch as we do this so it can be reinforced at home too. To help with this, all students will get a set of knowledge organisers this week. Again, if you can ask to see them and talk to your child about what they are learning and practice knowledge recall, it is very helpful to them. These are also available here:

[Knowledge organisers | The Academy at Shotton Hall \(shottonhallacademy.co.uk\)](https://www.shottonhallacademy.co.uk/knowledge-organisers).

It is the summer ones that are the current focus. Extra physical copies are available from each learning manager, if they get misplaced.

Each year group has two parents' evenings (one with their tutor at the start of the year, and then an academic one with class teachers which follows later in the year). A report card follows each assessment period in Autumn, Spring and finally, Summer. Hopefully this means you feel well informed about what is planned and how well your child is doing. However, as always, please get in touch if you do have any questions; wondering and waiting can be frustrating and something that we are keen to avoid.

Extra-curricular activities are all listed here:

[Extra-curricular activities and clubs | The Academy at Shotton Hall \(shottonhallacademy.co.uk\)](https://www.shottonhallacademy.co.uk/extra-curricular-activities), please encourage your child to attend something.

The eggs have arrived and we already have some chicks and ducklings hatched! The live stream will be shared with students so they can see the miracle that is life as it emerges. Science will be covering things to do with life cycle and hopefully we will all get to see the joy as the first signs of life are seen. The ducklings taking to water truly is heart-warming! An update on last year's is that one of the ducks acts and thinks he is a dog...with much better recall than my Irish terrier!

Autism Awareness Week was during the holiday; however, to recognise this we have things planned during this week. The theme for assemblies is community, a sense of belonging and joining in with things. Students have listened to the famous 'I have a dream' speech by Martin Luther King, a powerful message about equality for all. We would appreciate any donations for sweet treats on Friday and it is useful if students want to buy things that they bring change.

Some other reminders;

- Students can replenish pencil cases with equipment that they can buy with 'merits' in the LRC.
- If your child's scientific calculator has been lost, spares can be bought on Scopay ([Login \(scopay.com\)](http://scopay.com)). Once purchased, if your child goes to the finance hatch, they can pick up their new calculator.
- Any pre-loved uniform donations can be made to pastoral. If you need spare uniform, please get in touch with shelley.heseltine@shottonhallacademy.co.uk or ask your child to call into pastoral.
- There is a free breakfast from 8am each morning in the dining room, this is open to all.
- The LRC is open every night, students have access to the library, computers and printers.
- You can check things like homework completion and merits on INSIGHT. Merits mean they have done something over and above, you knowing this is part of the reward to them.

The single thing that has the greatest effect in school is reading. This page highlights some really useful things to know:

[Reading at The Academy at Shotton Hall | The Academy at Shotton Hall \(shottonhallacademy.co.uk\)](http://shottonhallacademy.co.uk)

Finally, our social media showcases things as they happen in school. If your child has any achievements that a wider audience could know, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. H. Hook', with a stylized star-like symbol to the left.

Alex Hook
Head of School