



# SCGSG Year 8 Information Evening

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025



Head of Year:  
Mrs Neal

# Year 8 Key Staff



- Mrs Neal
- Mrs Bubb (Assistant Headteacher – SLT Link to Year 8)
- Tutors:
  - Mrs Heeks – 8FHE - Aquila
  - Mrs Bains – 8SBA - Cygnus
  - Mr Davis – 8MDC - Delphinus
  - Mrs Reid – 8CRE - Pegasus
  - Ms Boyle – 8JBO - Phoenix
  - Mr Charles – 8MCH - Ursa



# Year 8: Age-appropriate reading material



Title	Author	Genre
The Day of The Triffids	John Wyndham	Dystopian
I Have no Secrets	Penny Joelson	Thriller
Girl in The Window	Penny Joelson	Psychological thriller
The Weight of Water	Sarah Crossan	Historical drama
Ghost Boys	Jewell parker Rhodes	Crime/fiction
Unstoppable	Dan Freedman	Pop music
Over The Line	Tom palmer	Historical fiction/football
Rebound	Kwame Alexander	Fiction/basketball
Booked	Kwame Alexander	Fiction/soccer
The Time machine	H G Wells	Science fiction/dystopian
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens	Classic novel
Little Bit	Alex Wheatle	Hip Hop
Crongton Knights	Alex wheatle	Gangs/fiction
Chinese Cinderella	Adeline Yen Mah	Autobiographical novel
The Curious incident of the Dog	Mark Haddon	Crime fiction/mystery
Looking For JJ	Anne Cassidy	Crime/fiction
No Fixed Address	Susin Nielson	Family/homelessness
Bone Talk	Candy Gourlay	Historical fiction
Millions	Frank Cottrell Boyce	Fiction/money
The Devil's Breath	David Gilman	Adventure/fiction

# How can I support my child's mental health?



**YOUNGMINDS**

**TWR**  
THE WAITING ROOM

Birmingham and Solihull Health & Wellbeing services at your finger tips

**THE MIX**





**Aerodynamically the  
bumble bee shouldn't be  
able to fly, but the bumble  
bee doesn't know it so it  
goes on flying anyway.**

-Mary Kay Ash



# (House) Character Points



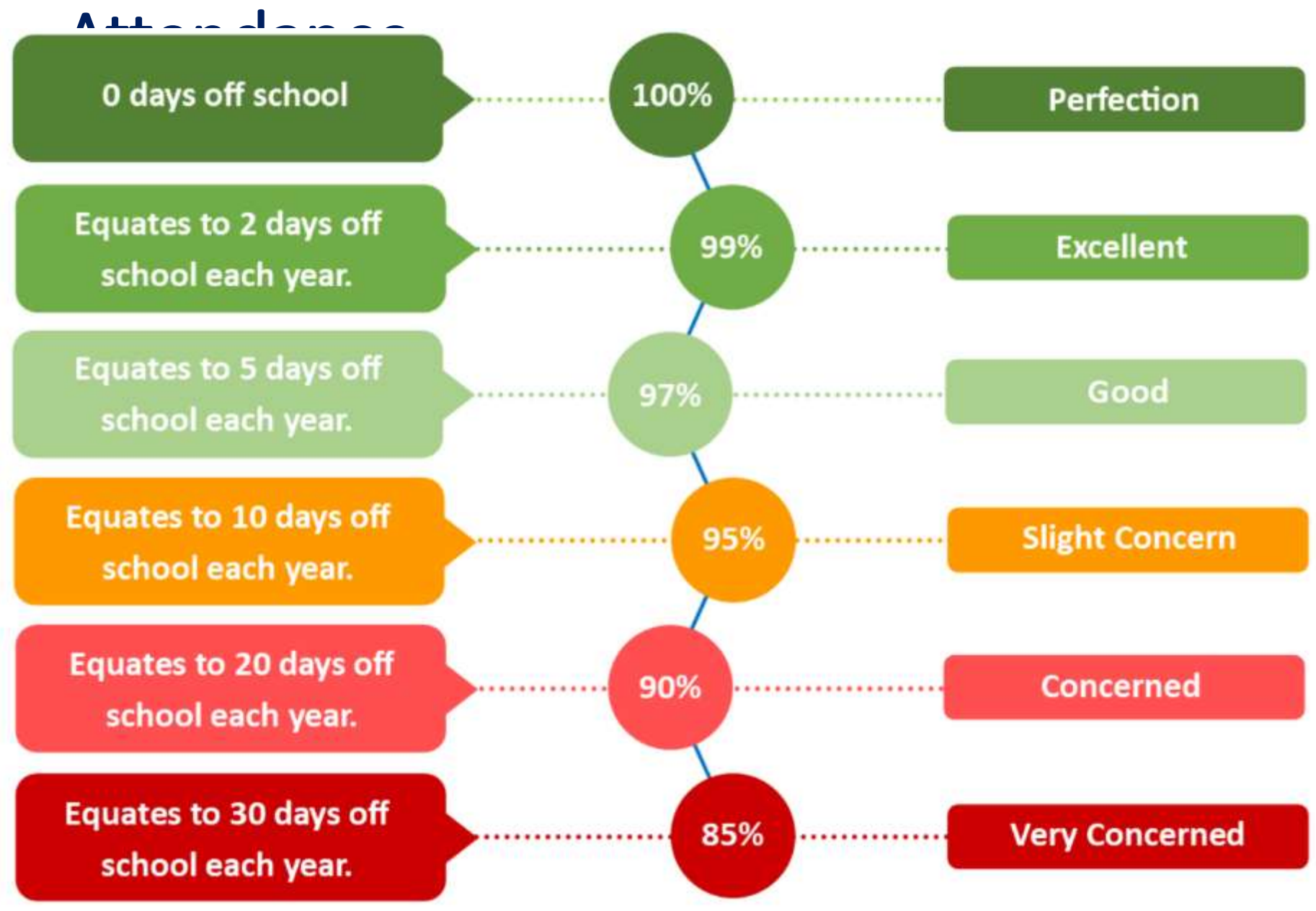


Students are rewarded for demonstrating each of our school character strengths in lessons or around school.

These are **Respect, Positivity and Resilience, Making Good Decisions, Integrity and Love of Learning.**







# Minister warns parents on school attendance ahead of new term



Bridget Phillipson told the BBC that the start of the year was a crucial time for pupils and parents

# Attendance by numbers



- Attendance in Year 7 last year: 97%
- 5 days missed per student. 25 Lessons missed per student  
(4500 lessons missed in our year group)
- Every school day counts

satchel:  
one

# Satchel:One



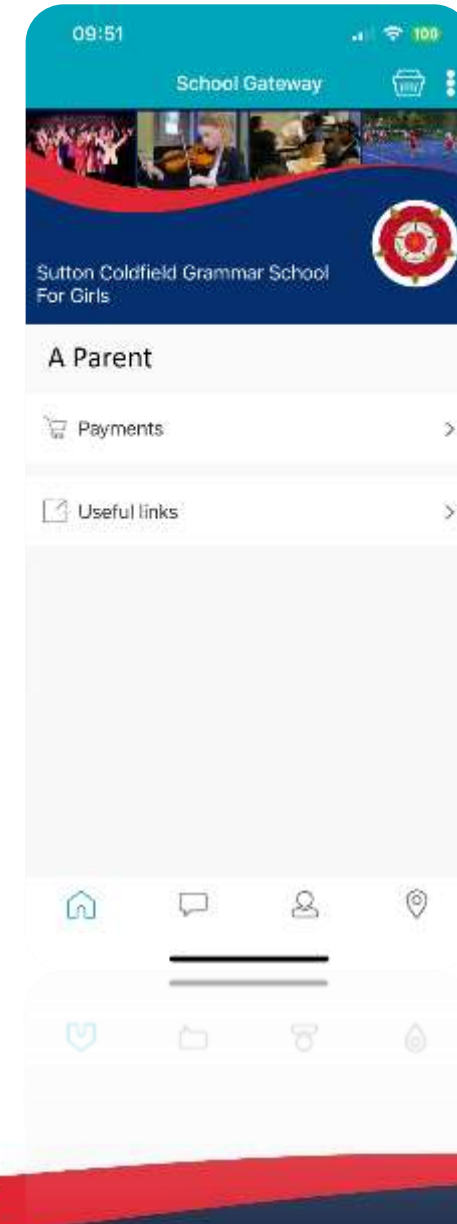
- **Your** access to see information about your child at school.
  - Timetable
  - Homework
  - Character Points/Behaviour
  - Attendance
  - Progress Reports
- Sign up using the information in your pack.
  - “Parent code” is unique to your child
  - Please set up your parent account
- We monitor engagement throughout the year



# School Gateway



- Thank you for supporting the move across to the new system
- Payments for lunches, trips, etc. via the app.
  - More efficient communications link
  - Builds a timeline of communication





**Growth Mindset**

**'I can not do that ...yet.'**



# Deputy Headteacher Curriculum & Assessment

Mrs Downing

# Subject overview



## Year 7

Lessons per fortnight	English	Maths	Science	French (Spanish from June)	Geography	History	RS	Computing	PE	Art	Music	Drama	Dt/Food/ Textiles	Personal Development
Year 7	6	6	6	6	3	3	3	2	4	2	2	2	3	2

## Year 8

Lessons per fortnight	English	Maths	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	French	Spanish	Geography	History	RS	Computing	PE	Art	Music	Drama	Dt/Food/ Textiles	Personal Development
Year 8	5	6	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	4	2	2	2	3	1

Retrieval practice is important.



## Headline figures at GCSE 2025

Grade 9 = 36%

Grade 9/7 = 83%

APS = 7.8



# Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls

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*"A positive, inclusive environment that allows students to reach their full potential."*

Year 11 Student







Biology – Autumn 1	Biology – Autumn 2	Chemistry – Autumn 1	Chemistry – Autumn 2
<b>Adaptations and evolution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ How are animals adapted to their habitat? – linking features to benefits</li> <li>□ Which adaptations are best to keep an animal warm? – with practical task</li> <li>□ What is evolution? – linked to Darwin's work on natural selection</li> <li>□ How can we save organisms from extinction? – linked to maintaining biodiversity</li> </ul>	<b>Food and the digestive system (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ How do enzymes work? – an explanation of the lock and key theory</li> <li>□ At what temperature do enzymes work best? – implementing practical</li> <li>□ At what temperature do enzymes work best? – analysis and evaluation</li> <li>□ How is our food produced? – intensive and organic farming</li> </ul>	<b>The Periodic Table</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ <i>Atomic structure:</i></li> <li>□ What is an atom?</li> <li>□ How are electrons arranged in an atom? How big is an atom?</li> <li>□ <i>Elements, mixtures and compounds:</i></li> <li>□ <i>Metals in the periodic table:</i></li> <li>□ How are the particles arranged in a metal?</li> <li>□ <i>The arrangement of the periodic table:</i></li> <li>□ Who developed the periodic table? Groups and periods – what do these terms mean?</li> <li>□ <i>Group 1 – The alkali metals:</i></li> <li>□ How do Group 1 metals react with water? What trends can we see in physical and chemical properties of Group 1?</li> <li>□ <i>Group 7 – The halogens:</i></li> <li>□ How do the halogens react? What trends can we see in the physical and chemical properties of Group 7?</li> <li>□ <i>Group 0 – The noble gases:</i></li> <li>□ What trends can we see in group 0? Strengths and weaknesses of models</li> <li>□ <i>Different structures of elements:</i></li> <li>□ Arrangement of particles in metals. Arrangement of particles in giant covalent structures. Arrangement of particles in simple molecular structures</li> </ul>	<b>The Periodic Table continued:</b> <i>Exceptional elements:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Which elements don't fit the patterns?</li> </ul> <b>Acids and Bases</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ <i>What is an acid, an alkali and a base?</i></li> <li>□ The pH scale</li> <li>□ Identifying acids and bases</li> <li>□ Hazards of acids and bases</li> <li>□ <i>What is an indicator?</i></li> <li>□ Making and using indicators to identify acids and bases</li> <li>□ <i>Neutralisation:</i></li> <li>□ What happens when an acid and an alkali react?</li> <li>□ Write word equations for neutralisation reactions</li> <li>□ What is a salt?</li> <li>□ <i>The properties of salts:</i></li> <li>□ What are their properties?</li> <li>□ How are particles arranged in a salt?</li> <li>□ <i>Reacting metals with acids:</i></li> <li>□ Describe the practical procedure for making a salt from an acid and a metal</li> <li>□ <i>Reacting metal oxides and acids:</i> Describe the practical procedure for making a salt from an acid and a metal oxide</li> <li>□ <i>Writing word and symbol equations for acid reactions</i></li> <li>□ <i>Conservation of mass in a chemical reaction</i></li> </ul>
<b>Food and the digestive system</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ What does it mean to have a balanced diet? – essential nutrient roles and balanced and unbalanced diets</li> <li>□ How does food pass through our digestive system? – the structures of the digestive system and their roles</li> <li>□ How is our digestive system adapted for its role? – model of the stages of the journey and the role of villi in absorption</li> </ul>	<b>Supplying the cell</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ What is respiration? – explanation of the process of aerobic respiration</li> <li>□ What happens if cells can't get enough oxygen? – explanation of anaerobic respiration</li> <li>□ What is fermentation? – practical activity of yeast fermenting sugar</li> <li>□ How does the heart keep us alive? -includes heart dissection demo</li> <li>□ What is in blood? – the structure and roles of blood components</li> </ul>		





# Mathematics

## Year 7

**Algebra:** Rules of algebra, Substitution, Simplifying, Solving linear equations, Devising equations from a given context, Factorising, Arithmetic sequences

**Number:** Powers, Roots, Negative numbers, Rounding and estimation, Factors, Multiples, Divisibility tests, Ratio and proportion, Use of a calculator

**Geometry:** Shape and solid properties, Angles, Nets, Metric units, Constructing triangles Perimeter and Surface area, Volume

**Probability:** Probability scale, Equally likely outcomes, Lists and Sample spaces

**Statistics:** Averages and spread. Compare and contrast data

## Year 8

**Number:** and proportion: Standard form, converting time and using timetables. Finding percentages and increase/decrease using decimal multiplies. Ratio within a ratio. Proportion of a quantity. Best value problems.

**Algebra:** Solving harder linear equations, Expanding double brackets, Factorising quadratic expressions, Substitution of negatives. Changing the subject. Plotting linear graphs, use of  $y=mx+c$ . Plotting curved graphs. Real life graphs including distance-time graphs. Further sequences: rules of arithmetic sequences and spotting quadratic sequences

**Geometry:** Pythagoras theorem, Area and circumference of a circle, Angles in polygons. Volume of prisms. Compound measures.

**Statistics:** Averages. Scatter graphs and correlation

## Year 9

**Number:** Reciprocals and rule's of indices, Error in measurement. Surds.

**Proportion:** reversing percentage change. Harder reasoning with ratio

**Algebra:** Expanding triple brackets. Factorising quadratics inc DOTs. Parallel and perpendicular lines. Simultaneous equations. Linear inequalities. Exponential curves.

**Geometry:** Trigonometry, Bearings, Transformations. Similar triangles. Volume/Surface area of cones, pyramids and spheres.

**Probability:** Frequency Trees and probability trees

**Statistics:** combined means, quartiles and box plots

## GCSE Edexcel - 1MA1

### Year 10

**Number and Proportion:** Rounding and truncation. Rationalising the denominator. Ratio and equations. Repeated percentage change. Direct/indirect proportion.

**Algebra:** Factorising non-monic polynomials, completing the square. Quadratic inequalities. Proof. Harder changing the subject. Changing the base of indices. Equation of a circle and finding the tangent to a circle

**Geometry:** Trig graphs and equation. Sine and Cosine rule. Circle theorems. Arc and Sectors. Probability: Generalised probability.

**Statistics:** Cumulative frequency

### Year 11

**Number and proportion:** Estimation in context. Unit and compound measure conversion.

**Algebra:** Functions, Sequences. Gradients and areas. Solving equations graphically. Iteration. Exponential form

**Geometry:** Vectors, Geometric proof. Construction and loci.

**Statistics:** Histograms, sampling and bias

## A-Level Edexcel - 9MA0

### Year 12

**Pure:** Hidden quadratics, the discriminant. Exponentials and logs, Natural logarithms. Binomial expansion. Vectors: Differentiation and Integration of polynomials. Graphs and Transformations. Trig identities and equations. Circle geometry. Factor theorem and proof. Radians Sequences and Series

**Statistics:** Probability. Binomial distribution. Hypothesis testing. Measures of data and correlation

**Mechanics:** motion with constant and variable acceleration. Forces and Friction.

### Year 13

**Pure:** Reciprocal trig functions. Trig: Addition formulae, double angles and Harmonic form. Differentiation on non-polynomial functions. Parametric equations. Integration. Solving differential equations. Proof. Partial Fractions. Functions. Vectors. Numerical Methods. Binomial expansion.

**Statistics:** Regression, correlation and hypothesis testing. Probability and Set notations. The Normal distribution

**Mechanics:** Moments, Projectiles. Variable acceleration

Subject overview (road map).

Super curricular opportunities – via the curriculum page of the website



gda12 + 1 • 4mo

MFL

MFL Competitions

Careers in MFL

Further Study

Hispanic Culture

Francophone Culture

The authors of the ten best entries to each competition will be invited to take part in a special Translation Workshop organized by the School of Languages and Cultures at the University of Sheffield, involving academics from the School, MA students in Translation Studies and alumni who work in translation-related fields. The workshop will be held online in January 2025 (date to be confirmed).

The authors of the three best entries to each competition will additionally each receive a £25 Amazon voucher.

Winners will be notified by Monday 16 December 2024.

PPTX

Translations will be read and judged by a panel

Year 12 & 13 Translation Competition

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Add comment

Foreign Intelligence Careers at GCHQ

gchq-careers.co.uk

Language Specialists | GCHQ Careers

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Add comment

Poetry competition (all year groups)

Individual Youth Entry

Are you a budding poet aged 15 or under? Translate any poem from any language with our Modern Spenser Prize cultural youth category!

The Stephen Spender Prize is an annual prize for poetry in translation that celebrates creativity of young people across the UK. The Prize was also a collaboration from all well as a special 'Spenser' award that is reserved for a different literary tradition.

For 2025, the rules are simple: translate any poem from any language, or a poem from the Spotlight keyword, and provide a commentary on the poem. To win the Stephen Spender Prize!

This year's competition is open for one year.

Submit your entry using this link

University - Summer Residential

bath.ac.uk

Pathway to Bath Programme

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Add comment

Modern Languages - University Module Insights

Teaching English Abroad as a Foreign Language Assistant

ciao!

مرحبا

नमस्ते

ouest-france.fr

Emmanuel Macron a « pris acte » de la démission du gouvernement de Michel Barnier, annonce l'Élysée

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Add comment

KS5 - Réouverture de Notre Dame

lefigaro.fr

Réouverture de Notre-Dame : la bataille de la restauration



# Deputy Headteacher

## Mr Eaton



# Personal Development

Personal Development is a whole school programme for all years and includes:

- PSHE
- Health Education
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Character Education
- Careers
- Citizenship
- British Values

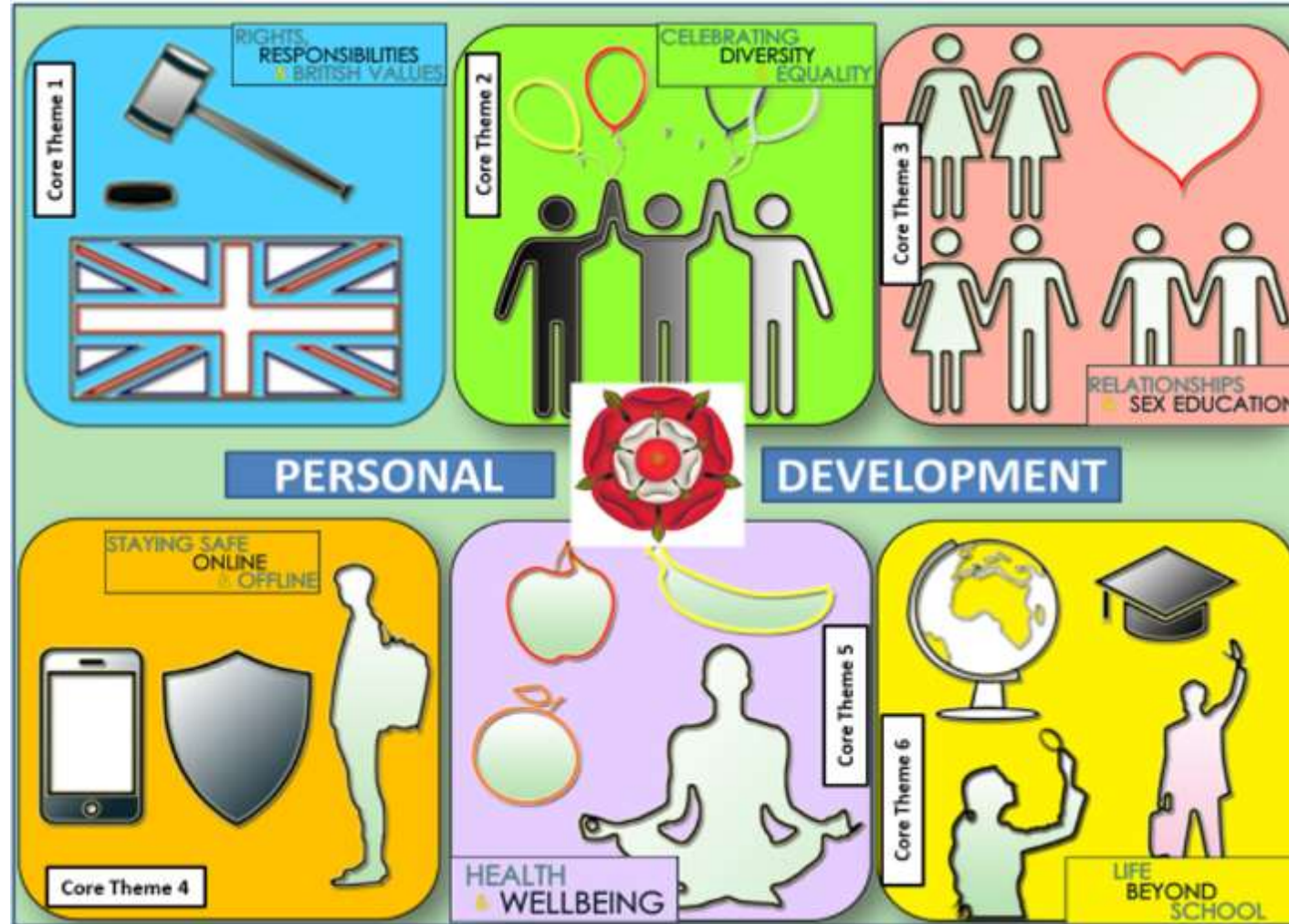
PD is delivered in Year 8 through **timetabled lessons** and **PD Weekly** which is once a week in registration time.



# Personal Development



Within the PD programme, there are 6 Key Themes:







# Extra-Curricular Opportunities

- Lunchtime and After School Clubs
- Inter-house competitions
- School Musical – “Grease”
- Sports fixtures
- Music Concerts
- Evening of Dance
- Evening of Drama
- RS - Places of Worship

# Promoted in Year 8 – Year 9 French Trip





# Further Opportunities at Sutton Girls

- Year 9 – Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Year 10 – Ski Trip (this year to Canada)
- Year 10 – Experience the workplace & careers fair
- Year 10 – Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Year 12 – London/Oxford Residential
- Year 12 – CERN Residential
- Year 12 - Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Year 12 – Work Experience





## The Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls Charity

The Charity is mainly funded from parental donations and plays a key role in improving the student experience

In the last 12 months The Charity has donated £25k to the School. Items funded include:

- New School Minibus
- Wall Art to celebrate school values
- New equipment for Creative Subjects
- Extra-Curricular Trips





# How can parents/carers help?

- Sign up for regular monthly donations to the School fund via our donation page using the link via the website below or QR Code below

[www.suttcold.bham.sch.uk/schoolcharity](http://www.suttcold.bham.sch.uk/schoolcharity)

- Share your expertise with us
- Offer company sponsorship



For more details, please contact the Finance and Operations Director: [finance@suttcold.bham.sch.uk](mailto:finance@suttcold.bham.sch.uk)





## Help Your Parents Association

The Parents Association is always in need of Volunteers to help support school events and fundraise

If you would like to help please contact us via the following links:

Email: [pa@suttcold.bham.sch.uk](mailto:pa@suttcold.bham.sch.uk)

Or via the QR Link below



## Forthcoming Events

- **NEXT EVENT – YEAR 7 FILM NIGHT**
- **HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON**
- **QUIZ NIGHT – FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER**
- **CHRISTMAS FAYRE FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER**
- **PLUS MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER IN THE YEAR**





# Things to do

- Check data sheet and return before you leave
    - Priority 1 & 2 contact details
  - Read & sign Home-School Agreement
  - Continue to engage with Satchel:One information
- 
- **E1 – Aquila (8FHE)**
  - **E2 – Phoenix (8JBO)**
  - **E3 – Delphinus (8MDC)**
  - **E4 – Cygnus (8SBA)**
  - **E5 – Pegasus (8CRE)**
  - **E6 – Ursa (8MCH)**

A graphic featuring a white speech bubble with the text "THANK YOU!" in blue, set against a blue background.

**THANK YOU!**