

Stretch & Challenge Courses 2016-17

We are excited to be able to provide you with more details of our planned Stretch and Challenge programme for 2016 – 17.

Please read on for more information about the fantastic range of additional courses you will be able to study in addition to your three A-levels (or three A-levels plus Further Maths) and the Extended Project Qualification.

During your Transition Conversation, you were asked to choose an area that appealed to you from the proposed list and we have used that feedback to create a full programme of bespoke taught courses for you.

At Induction on 29th June 2016, you will be asked to confirm your chosen Stretch and Challenge course, so please take time to consider the options carefully and do not hesitate to email Ms Bell at bell.e@sggs.org.uk if you have any questions that cannot wait until Induction.

The Shottery Arts Collective

Who is this course aimed at?

Come join us! Anyone with an interest in the Arts – performers, artists, behind the scenes and those who think they would like to run a company.

- Could you run a sculpture exhibition in the manor garden?
- Can you inspire the whole school to create a collaborative tapestry?
- Could you create an original piece of theatre to tour local primary schools?
- Are you able to choreograph a dance piece to celebrate International Women's Day?
- Is directing an animated film your cup of tea?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then this is the course for you.

There are opportunities to be a big or small part of this group. This eclectic group will be expected to devise, create and excite.

You will form part of the school Arts Collective and will be responsible for a range of exciting projects both in and outside school. The group will be expected to run innovative and ground breaking projects to inspire and ignite the imagination of the whole school and local community.

The course provides a worthwhile introduction to a wide range of personal and organisational skills, which are very valuable in the workplace.

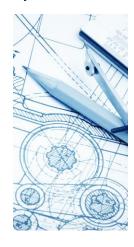
Lots of practical, hands-on experience of working in a team and pulling events – big and small – together. Plus the opportunities to hone your skills in your preferred Arts area with input from specialist teachers.



BEE: Business Enterprise & Engineering

Who is this course aimed at?

Anyone with an interest in entrepreneurial creativity.



- Could you work in a team and help solve live industrial engineering problems?
- Do you want to work with inspirational engineering professionals?
- Are you flexible and courageous, willing to throw in your creative ideas for collective consideration?
- Are you willing to learn how to write a professional report?
- Are you up to presenting and persuading management to implement your recommendations?
- Can you apply science and maths to real world situations?
- Do you enjoy a laugh and want to help others enjoy their learning also?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then this is the course for you. You will work as a team, so we need entrepreneurs, designers, scientists and anyone with an interest in engineering to sign up.

You will form part of a team who will promote Engineering across the school; collectively you will create a solution to a problem that is set by professional engineers.

The course provides an excellent opportunity to hone your problem solving capability, report writing expertise and presentational expertise.

This is a 'hands on' experience and will develop your time management and team work capabilities. You will visit places of work and other institutions associated with design and development and will begin to network across the business world. This will provide a superb foundation for your future aspirations and is an opportunity not to be missed!

Creative Writing

Who is this course aimed at?

Many of us believe that we are not capable of creative expression. Whether that is because we were never given the opportunity in early childhood, or maybe we thought that our natural instincts and talents lay elsewhere - perhaps in more practical subjects. However, it is my belief that everyone has a creative muscle which just needs to be toned in order to be expressed.

By taking ourselves out of the bounds of academic writing and delving into a whole range of forms - from short-stories, to poetry, drama and even journalistic writing - we can uncover aspects of ourselves which are not immediately identifiable. We can express ourselves in new ways, empathise with people and situations distanced from our immediate experience and, at the same time, develop our core, transferable writing skills.

The Creative Writing group is aimed at anyone who wishes to find and express their creative voice.

As part of the group, you will be part of a supportive network of writers, all willing to share ideas and develop their writing skills. With the support of a specialist teacher, you will be encouraged to write in a range of different forms and seek inspiration from a wealth of different writers and texts. We will take part in workshops and events led by published authors and have the opportunity to enter a number of national writing competitions. In addition to contributing towards a group creative writing anthology, you will also work towards creating your own portfolio of creative writing pieces which can be used as evidence for future university, work experience or job interviews.

Here is just a sample of some of the tasks you could undertake:

- Finding your creative voice: How to find inspiration from the world around you
- Planning a novel
- Why we shouldn't be scared of writing poetry
- Writing for television and film
- Writing for words

Money & Investments

Who is this course aimed at?

This course is aimed at anyone who thinks they might one day work in the finance or investment



side of business, or perhaps those wanting to find out more about how to invest money for the future.



By taking this course, you will be studying for a Level 3 Certificate, accredited by the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI). This Certificate is usually taken by industry professionals

once they have graduated from university – so don't expect it to be easy! However, if you do make the grade in the exam and written project, you will enjoy lifetime exemption from the first unit in the Investment Operations Certificate, a usual pre-requisite for working in the investment world. (There will be a charge for this).

As part of the course, you will have the chance to take part in CISI insight days at investment banks and other financial institutions in London, and begin networking to help arrange all-important work experience and contacts for the future. We will also be supported by the Investment department at the NFU Mutual, with the top student going on to enjoy a week's work experience with them in the summer.

By taking this course, you will develop key analytical skills as well as developing commercial awareness. You will also learn how to manage your own personal finances – a key life skill. You will explore the financial services industry and the financial assets and markets that it comprises as well as learning how to evaluate companies on the stock market and how investment funds are structured.

So, if you think you might be interested in making money, corporate investments or the financial world, irrespective of whether you are studying Business or Economics, then come and challenge yourself with us.

Mandarin

Who is this course aimed at?

Anyone interested in learning to speak Mandarin. With more than 955 million speakers, Mandarin claims the top spot as the world's most common language - and one that often requires professional translation services.

One of the five major dialects of Chinese, Mandarin is the official language of China and Taiwan, as well as one of the four official dialects of Singapore. Approximately 14.4 percent of the world's population are native speakers of Mandarin.

If you are a linguist looking for a new challenge or interested in globalisation, this could be the course for you.



MOOCs for Coding

We are planning to offer a programme to those of you who are interested in



computing and coding. As we are in the process of recruiting a new Head of Computer Science, we will provide further details on this course once the appointment is confirmed.

Photography

Who is this course aimed at?

Those who have an interest specifically in photography or Art. This course provides a practical, theoretical and expressive approach to photography. You will explore the essentials in editing software and create a final portfolio and working notebook recording the three stages:

- 1. Auto to Manual: the creative controls of aperture, shutter speed, ISO, focusing, composition and creative choice
- 2. RAW to 'ROAR': processing from the RAW image to the finished picture, using imaging software
- 3. Onto the Wall: your own creative project from vision to exhibition, displaying an end image to mark your creative development in photography.

Ideally, you will have access to you own (or a family) DSLR camera or equivalent with manual control.



Practical Maths

Who is this course aimed at?



There is a phrase along the lines of:

"I wouldn't do that for all the tea in China"

Have you ever wondered how much tea there actually is in China?

Do you know how many people are using their mobile phones right now?





 or how many McDonalds burgers will be sold in the next hour?

If you are interested in learning how to answer these and similar questions, then this course is for you.

Are you taking Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Economics or Psychology but not Maths? You may not be ready to give up studying Maths but don't want to take it for A-level! Credit cards, mortgage rates etc - welcome to your future! Would you like to learn more about these so that you are more prepared?

During the year we will look at some of the key topics covered in A-level Maths such as logarithms and statistical tests that will support you with your other courses.

The above are just some of the examples that will be covered so is the course for you?

Sport & Leadership

Who is this course aimed at?

Well, those of you who still like PE and want to continue doing it in the sixth form!

If this is you, and you enjoy sport, then you will be able to select from a wide range of sporting activities.

These will be taught by PE staff through a structured, yet informal approach.



For those who love the competitiveness of sport, this option is about team sports too as it provides the means to prepare you to play in external matches against other schools.

If you are interested in getting more out of the course than just good fun, friends and fitness then this option could also lead into preparing girls for more specialised coaching roles and gaining a Sporting National Governing Body Qualification.

It's also about shared experiences as girls are also encouraged to assist in leading and coaching younger students, whether at school or in the wider community. They would have the opportunity to participate in the delivery of the Sports Leadership course run by the PE Department.

The course is all about developing the generic leadership skills needed for life such as organisation, planning, communication and teamwork through the medium of sport.

This experience would help to develop essential life skills such as organisation, motivation, communication and working with others, all skills that employers are looking for.