



# LAKELANDS NEWS



## A message from The Headteacher

As I write this, the first Omicron variant Covid case has been confirmed in Telford and Wrekin, and Storm Barra is heading into the mainland from Ireland. As we 'batten down the hatches' and keep our fingers crossed that this time we won't experience power cuts, it's easy to forget that the Christmas season is nearly upon us.

I always feel sympathy for our Year 11s at this time of year. As the tree begins to sparkle in reception, and the rest of us begin to dream of tinsel and turkey, Year 11s have to slog their way through a fortnight of mock exams. This year of all years I take my hat off to them (but clutch it tightly in case it blows away!) With all the disruption and uncertainty they have experienced over the last two years, and at the end of a long and increasingly chilly term, they are showing huge grit and resilience under pressure.

The Covid Grinch isn't managing to completely ruin Christmas for us. Though it will be an online spectacle instead of the traditional community gathering, the Christmas concert is going ahead, and as usual, the Creative Arts Faculty staff are using their creativity (I suppose the clue *is* in the name) to make sure that we have a festive treat to enjoy. Do take a look if you can.

I'm also pleased that Year 11 will be able to enjoy the traditional Lakelands Chester trip this year. They have had precious few opportunities to access school trips, so this will be a breath of fresh air after their exams are over.

At the moment we're still able to run clubs and sports fixtures, and it's so nice to see pupils gathering ready to represent #Team Lakelands. It's great experience for all who participate, and for some, it's an important stepping stone to future glory. Recently I was very proud to hear that twins Abi and Jess Kershaw, both Lakelands alumni, are now both professional rugby players with Premier club Worcester Warriors, and that Abi has already made her England debut.

We're trying to make sure that we build back experiences during school time too. Last week, months of preparation by Mrs Wilkinson, our Careers lead, came to fruition, and during the termly Extended PSHE

session, all year groups had the opportunity to explore their future career options, some with visitors representing local industry. Mrs Wilkinson's hard work definitely paid off, with lots of positive feedback from students (and, incidentally, from the visitors too.)

At the end of this term we will be bidding farewell to Miss Verilli, who has secured a full time PE teaching post in Shrewsbury. In the short time that she has been with us, she has made a huge impact. We wish her every success in her new role.

We are also saying goodbye to Gilly Davies who has been with us for over twenty years. Gilly has been a crucial part of the incredible site staff, making sure that 'her' areas of the school are always spick and span, and ready for the next day. Through thick and thin, she's been a team player, going over and beyond in countless different ways, from washing PE kit to supplying biscuits to those of us still working while she's doing her rounds. We all hope she has a long and happy retirement.

I'd like to thank you all for the support that you have given to the academy over the last twelve months, and I must also pay tribute to the staff team, who have shown great resilience and commitment in challenging and unpredictable circumstances.

I hope that we all can enjoy a Covid free Christmas, enjoy time with family and friends, and recharge our batteries as we prepare to welcome 2022. I think I might add a crystal ball to my list for Santa....

Happy Christmas!

Sophy Bellis

**JANUARY - STAGGERED RETURN - see page 8 for more info**

*Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Year 11 students, and any children of NHS keyworkers only, return*

*Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan - As above plus Years 7 & 10 return*

*Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan - As above plus Years 8 & 9 return*



# PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS - PE -



On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December Lakelands Academy participated in the second North Shropshire Cross Country event at Oswestry School. Our athletes once again did us proud with some exceptional results even in cold and windy conditions. Well done everyone!

Report by Mr Peebles



On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, ten Year 9 boys represented Lakelands Academy at a U14 boys football tournament at Oswestry School. In their first three games they played the Marches School, Thomas Adams School and The Grove School. All three games finished as a draw which resulted in a penalty shootout to decide which two teams go through. Lakelands did very well at progressing through to play Thomas Adams. The boys won that game to go through to the final where we played Sir John Talbot School. The boys did a great job but lost the game. The boys did us proud. Well done!

Report by Mr Peebles

Year 9's also took part in a friendly match against Thomas Adams on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The game was played at Thomas Adams, 3.15 kick off. This game was an exciting fixture as this was the first game they had played for the school since year 7. The game was scrappy to begin with, with Lakelands going 2-0 behind. Then later on in the first half, Flick Townsend scored a screamer of a goal make it 2-1 at half time. Unfortunately, the game finished 5-1 to Thomas Adams but it could have been a lot closer if it wasn't for the post and crossbar.

Report by Mr Peebles



On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November, Lakelands Academy participated in their first North Shropshire Cross Country event of the year at Oswestry School. Our athletes once again did us proud with some exceptional results.

Special mention goes to Lucy McBride who finished 1<sup>st</sup> in her Year 8 girls race. Also, the Year 8 boys' team, with runners finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> - an amazing performance!

Well done everyone! Report by Mr Peebles



On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, Year 11 and 10 boys were involved in the U16 County Cup game against Shrewsbury Academy. As a result of our partnership with Shrewsbury Town, we were able to play the game on their brand new 3G training pitch alongside the Shrewsbury Town ground. The boys fought well and played some good football at times but unfortunately, we lost 5-4 with the last kick of the game. Report by Mr Peebles

### Lakelands V St Martins Match

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November Lakelands Academy went head to head with St Martins. The final score was 8-0 to Lakelands with the scorers being Louie Kynaston Bradbury (3), Owen Ross Edwards, Ollie Doleman, Louie Rickett, Ollie O'Connor and an own goal. In this game the best play was down the wings and when the ball was passed quickly. Most of the chances came about from this. There were also some great finishes from the lads. This was the teams first game for Lakelands and hopefully is the start of a good run. Well played lads!" Report by Owen Ross-Edwards Year 8



### Lakelands Academy Yr9 V Shrewsbury Academy Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021 at Lakelands Academy

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Lakelands Academy and Shrewsbury Academy went head-to-head in a cup tie. A loss for either team would result in the end of their cup runs so the stakes were high. The goal scorers of the day were TJ, Flick, Luke, and Owen. It was a game with 10 goals the final score being 6-4 to Lakelands. With 10 mins to full time Lakelands were pressing well when Owen stole the ball off the full back and finishing it. The game went to extra time when Owen scored another two to send Lakelands through to the next round. Lakelands pressed well leading to most of their goals.

Report by Owen Ross-Edwards Year 8



## Year 8 V Thomas Adams

Lakelands put up a strong performance to beat Thomas Adams 2-0. Some solid defensive work from Harrison, Luke and Owen meant that the opponents didn't get too many clear cut chances while at the other end Lakelands attacking play was causing problems for the visiting defence. The tight encounter was settled by a goal in each half by Louie Kynaston Bradbury to maintain year 8s 100% record.

## Year 8 V Marches (Presidents Cup)

This was Lakelands toughest game so far played in tricky conditions on Lakelands' huge grass pitch. A slight change in formation saw the team play with a solid back 4, 2 central midfielders, 2 wide attackers, a number 10 and a centre forward. This seemed to be working well with the home team dominating possession but unable to create the openings. There was a bit too much running with the ball and dribbling and not enough passing.

Eventually the breakthrough was made with a stunning strike from Luke Edwards. A mix up in defence though allowed Marches a rare chance which they took. At half time the teams were level 1-1. 2 early goals in the second half from Ollie O'Connor and Luke Edwards put Lakelands in control at 3-1 but then a defensive mix up let Marches back in the game but further goal from O'Connor and Kynaston Bradbury ensured Lakelands ran out comfortable 5-2 winners and progress to the next round to face Meole Brace or Shrewsbury Academy.

This term several year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 girls had the opportunity to represent Lakelands Academy, playing netball against other schools as part of the netball tournament. Some games the girls won and some lost but all the girls played extremely well and had a lot of fun! Some of the girls had never played a netball fixture at all before. Therefore, it was some of the girls first experiences playing as a team and for their school against another school!! Well done girls!!

During school time a girls netball inter-house tournament was played where each year group played against each other in different houses. For year 7, Blakemere house won, Colemere and Whitemere came joint second with Newtonmere finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. For year 8, Blakemere came first, Colemere came second, Newtonmere came third and Whitemere came fourth. For year 9 first place was Newtonmere, second place was Whitemere, third place was Blakemere and 4<sup>th</sup> place Colemere. For year 10 Whitemere came first, Colemere came second, Newtonmere came third and Blakemere came fourth. For year 11, the girls all drew first place.



Some year 7 girls took part in a Football Tournament at Shrewsbury Town where they played against several other schools and got to represent Lakelands Academy. They were also the first to wear Lakelands Academy's new girls football kit!!! The girls won one game and lost two but had a lot of fun and enjoyed the experience. The girls had never played together as a team before until this tournament so did really well!

Well done girls!!





Here in English we are feeling very festive in the run up to Christmas and are getting out our department gingerbread dresses and jumpers. Each Friday in December we are holding a selection box raffle-if you are awarded Legend of the Lesson in English lessons then you receive a ticket. Winners so far include Jack Baxter and Alex Palmer-well done, boys! We have continued our in-house rewards system too, which the students are loving, with sweets and postcards home as prizes.

This half term year 7s have enjoyed taking part in a national story writing competition, whereby they could win £5000 for the school library. The story had to be 500 words maximum but have a clear opening, development, climax and ending. We've had some wonderful entries and have everything crossed that we have the winner amongst us! Year 7 and 8 are also reading for 20 minutes per day as part of our Accelerated Reader programme, which is due to be officially launched in the new year. More information to follow, but watch this space as it's a fantastic system that is designed to improve reading skills as well as encourage children to share our love for reading. Mrs. Gordon, our new librarian, has been working really hard to prepare and organise the library to ensure that Accelerated Reader is a great success. The Extreme Reading display has gained a lot of attention from staff and students-if you happen to be in school do take a look, it is next to the steps up to the Well Being Centre. Year 9 students have been enjoying working on our new Crime and Punishment unit. We've been exploring what prisons were like in the Victorian age as well as debating whether or not capital punishment should return. It's great to see the students considering a range of viewpoints and then forming their own opinions.

Finally, Mrs Parkinson's 'Word of the Week' has been great fun so far. We are all learning vocabulary that we've never heard of before and attempting to use it! We are also trying to encourage children to expand their vocabulary with posters and displays around our department.

From #Team English, have a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year!



## Year 10 Blood Brothers Trip

I thoroughly enjoyed our trip to see Blood Brothers at the hippodrome theatre. The atmosphere was indescribable and it was lovely to go on a trip like this after so long. I hope we can do this again in the future.

### Set

The set used in blood brother was small yet significant. It was also extremely political, I mean this in the respect that when it was in an upper class house they was more sophisticated back scenes an then when it was a poorer family it wouldn't even allow to see the house it was set in the street.

### Costume

The status of the individual was shown by their clothing. For example Mickey at the start was in a bright green jumper this reflected his mood and how happy he was but then as he grew older he kept that same jumper however this time it was a dark green colour instead, it was almost as though as he got older he became unhappy and gathered a lot of baggage and could even show that it has been handed down to him by his siblings due to their financial situation. Eddie (the upper class twin that was given away) he was dressed in shorts with knee high socks and a vest it was almost as though Mickey and Eddie were dressed exactly the same however it was just adjusted to make one look wealthier and one poorer.

Lydia Whitley 10W



I really enjoyed going to see Blood Brothers at the Hippodrome Theatre, the atmosphere of a live musical was so nice to see and be in, especially after the year of no school trips, I loved it and would love to go on more drama trips in the future!

**Sound** - The songs in the play are very much very much there to show effect and emotion for the scene and actor. For example the ending song 'tell me it's not true' is very emotional, and it goes very high pitch to sing they want it to hit emotionally and wrap up the show with a song everyone remembers. Also, the song they added for the devil to sing 'the Devil's got your number' really emphasises the whole plot of the play as it gets bought up so many times. With it being so loud, fiery and low, it really shows the danger in what the mothers were doing, as well as adding a contrast to sound compared to all the emotional songs that go throughout the play.

**Costume** - Eddie and Mickey's costumes are very cleverly done as when they were acting as children, their clothes were made bigger to try and show them acting as children, but still being the same items. Equally, the colours also show how their personality is, for example, Micky's outfits when he was younger were very colourful, but as he gets older and he starts getting depressed, they get darker. Also, like the "narrator" was dressed very smart in a suit almost to reflect the Devil and evil like Lucifer, because he sings all the songs about the devil having your number.

Rosie Allen, 10N

THANK YOU



£370.85



£200.00

Rosie Allen (Yr 10) held a Cake Sale in support of Kabuki UK in November and raised £200.00  
WELL DONE Rosie and a huge thank you to all that supported her.

Non-Uniform Day raised £370.85 for Children In Need .  
Thank you all.



£212.00

It was Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 10th December, £212.00 was raised.  
Many thanks.



7W House Captains Gracie Rowe and Fern Forrester worked incredibly hard to promote the Christmas Shoebox appeal, which was this year's chosen form charity.  
Creating posters and giving presentations in form they managed to acquire an amazing 11 shoeboxes full of goodies, which they then took to a drop off point in Oswestry with help from their fabulous mums. Well done ladies and well to 7W who pulled together to embrace the spirit of Christmas!



# SCHOOL GAMES

## Year 7 Transition Day



5 boys from Year 7 took part in a year 7 transition event designed to help build confidence, skills, try new activities and work a team. Activities they took part in were boxing, hoola hooping, curling, team building, basketball and code breaking. The boys had a fantastic time showing good skills in all activities particularly the hoola hooping!

Well done boys!



## Shropshire School Children Hit the Squash Courts

School children across north Shropshire have been experiencing the fastest racket and ball sport in the world for the first time this term.

Coinciding with the build up to the Commonwealth Games and the start of the torch relay, pupils from 5 schools have taken part in squash training at Market Drayton squash club and Brookside squash club, near Oswestry. They have gone from total beginners to playing matches in a programme of 2 training sessions and concluding with an inter-school competition.

Last week a keenly fought contest between Newtown CofE school and Welshampton had the teachers and fellow players off their seats as a very close team match drew to a conclusion, with Newtown just pipping their partner school to the win.

Elsewhere, Oswestry school, Whitchurch junior academy and Longlands also took part in this enriching sporting experience led by Shropshire county coach Ben Schur.

Pupils of all sporting abilities have thoroughly enjoyed the programme and have risen to the challenge of learning new skills in a new environment. The team matches have proven a fantastic success with children encouraging, and excitedly cheering, their classmates in every rally.

The response from teachers has been very positive too:

*"The children and staff are loving the sessions!! Would there be any possibility of running anymore workshops in the future?"*  
Longlands School

*"...the children that attended had the best time ever!"* Whitchurch Junior Academy

Look out for more dates in 2022 as Shropshire Squash and School Games continue the programme in the lead up to Birmingham 2022.

## Student LFD testing after the Christmas/New Year holiday

In accordance with national guidance from the DfE, students returning to Lakelands after the Christmas/New Year festive break will, subject to written consent from parents and not having had a positive PCR test result within the last 90 days, be required to have one LFD test in school.

# 2021/2022 TERM DATES

## SPRING TERM 2022

**PD Day - Tuesday 4th January**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Year 11 students, and any children of NHS keyworkers only, return**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January - As above plus Years 7 & 10 return**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January - As above plus Years 8 & 9 return**

**HALF TERM - Monday 21st - Friday 25th February**

**EASTER - Monday 11th - Friday 22nd April**

## SUMMER TERM 2022

**Monday 25th April - Wednesday 20th July**

**Bank Holiday - Monday 2nd May**

**HALF TERM - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June**

**First day of Summer holidays - Wednesday 20th July**



We've been asked by local residents to post a polite reminder to parents to be considerate when parking to drop-off/collecting students please. If we could be mindful not to block people's driveways, or park dangerously where the views for pedestrians or drivers could be obscured. Many thanks for your co-operation.

## Lakelands Academy - A guide to our school uniform

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are very proud of our appearance here at Lakelands, and we know that wearing school uniform helps to promote a strong, cohesive, school identity that supports our high standards. Our pupils tell us that wearing their Lakelands uniform removes any dilemma about what to wear each day, and that it gives them a sense of belonging. Importantly, in a world where young people are under increasing pressure, uniform creates a judgement free zone, where everyone is equal. This leaves them free to be able to concentrate on the important business of learning and allows them to make the most of their time with us.

Getting pupils back to school has been a stressful and worrying time for many of us. All of our current focus and energy has to be on teaching our pupils and keeping everyone safe. Unwanted distractions or conflict around uniform and appearance is something we are really keen to avoid. At Lakelands, we feel that despite the current challenges we all face, maintaining our high standards of uniform and appearance is still important. We regularly receive comments on the smartness of our pupils and we believe that having well-presented students will result in good behaviour, a sense of pride belonging to the Lakelands family and a good work ethic which prepares pupils for the world of work. We strive to maintain our high standards.

Shops sell a huge range of products under the banner of school uniform, and we know how convincing our children can be, persuading us that a particular item is acceptable, when it isn't! Uniform is a significant expense for families, particularly during secondary school years when children are growing so much, and we realise that no-one wants to have to buy more than they need to.

Over the years, we have taken on board comments that more clarity would be appreciated, and we've also listened to our parents who have asked us to consider easy supply and purchasing options (online and in store). In drawing up our uniform guide we have decided NOT to follow some other local schools who are limiting parents' choice to just one supplier for their school uniform

The uniform guide and appearance code explains the range of 'Lakelands approved' uniform options from which parents can choose. **(this is available on our website and the appearance code also appears on Page 3 on your child's school planner)**

Over the past week, form tutors and Heads of Year have done uniform and appearance checks. They found that there are still a number of issues/concerns with a minority of pupils including.....

- Pupils wearing tight Lycra type leggings instead of school trousers or skirts
- skirts that are too tight and too short
- trousers that are too short, so ankles are showing
- pupils wearing more than one simple plain gold or silver stud in each ear.
- **Pupil should NEVER be wearing nose piercings.**
- Pupils wearing false eyelashes and false nails
- Only pupils in year 11 can wear "minimal" make up
- Pupils arriving in trainers instead of school shoes
- Pupils arriving in PE kit when they haven't got a PE lesson that day.

When pupils return in January, form tutors and Heads of Year will carry out uniform and appearance checks. If there is an issue with appearance you may see a sticker has been placed in your child's school planer alerting you what the issue is, there may be letter/parentmail or phone call home.

We always want to work in partnership with parents, so if you don't think you will be able to make the necessary purchases in time for the new term, please contact your child's Head of Year via school admin when we start back in January, to discuss the matter in strict confidence. We will do everything we can to support you. If your son/daughter is unable to wear the full uniform for exceptional medical reasons, again, please notify the Head of Year in writing via school email.

We keep uniform items from across the range, and in all sizes, to store in school. These will not be for sale but will be held centrally so that we can support students who have a mishap during the day or who arrive at school wearing inappropriate uniform. Students will be able to borrow these school issue garments (which will always be freshly laundered) but will be asked to return them the following day.

If you have any questions you would like to ask about the Lakelands Academy uniform, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Bellis – Headteacher

# UNIFORM REMINDER

Please see below a list of areas of concern to focus on as part of our uniform and appearance code. A reminder of the uniform code is in your child's diary.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and for helping us to support the strong values of Lakelands Academy.

*Please label all uniform and belongings. This really helps us when trying to reunite lost property with its owner.*

## GOOD



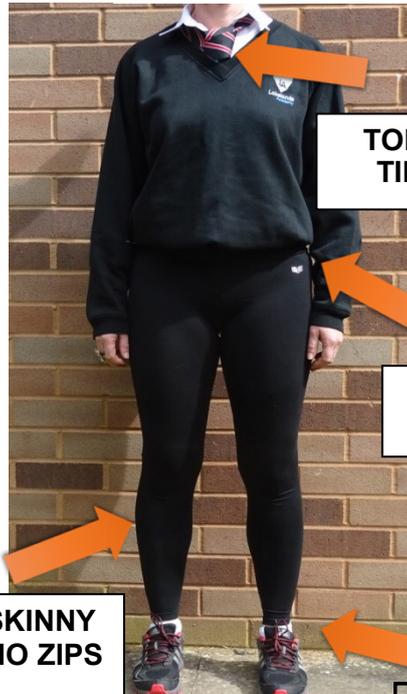
TOP BUTTON / TIE FASTENED

BLACK KNEE LENGTH SKIRT

BLACK SENSIBLE (FLAT) SHOES - NOT BOOTS

**Single small stud in each ear is permissible but no other piercings are allowed.**

## BAD



TOP BUTTON / TIE UNDONE

JUMPER TUCKED IN

LEGGINGS/SKINNY TROUSERS/NO ZIPS

TRAINERS

## BAD



TOP BUTTON / TIE UNDONE

SHIRT UNTUCKED

SKIRT TOO SHORT/ TOO TIGHT OR LYCRA

TRAINERS

# REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If we are expecting your child to be in school and they are unable to attend, please telephone, **not email**.

If your child is absent for more than one day, please note that we require you to phone **every morning**, not just on the first day of absence.

These are safeguarding requirements.

To report an absence please ring 01691 622543



## Reminder

Pupils must arrive at school on time in the mornings and be on site ready for the 8.55am bell.

## CYCLE PERMITS



Please collect a letter from reception if you want to bring your bike to the Academy.

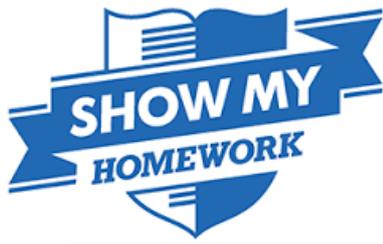
# Lakelands & Lakeside Academy

Lakelands Academy has teamed up with Lakeside coaches to bring Lakelands students exclusive travel to and from school.



COACH 1 PICK UP/DROP OFF	PICK UP	DROP OFF	COACH 2 PICK UP/DROP OFF	PICK UP	DROP OFF
Oswestry Coach Park AM/Railway Tavern PM	07:55	16:17	Park Hall Inglis Road	08:20	15:50
Oswestry Park Gates	08:00	16:14	Whittington Rose Hill Drive	08:23	15:47
Oswestry Cabin Lane	08:03	16:11	Whittington Three Trees	08:25	15:45
Oswestry Unicorn Road	08:05	16:09	Penybryn Avenue	08:27	15:43
Colour Supplies	08:07	16:07	Hinford Junction	08:28	15:42
Gobowen Co-Op	08:12	16:02	Ellesmere The Brow	08:32	15:38
Gobowen Fern Hill Lane	08:14	16:00	Lakelands Academy	08:35	15:35
St Martins Stans	08:19	15:55			
St Martins Coopers Lane	08:21	15:53			
Criftins Parish Hall	08:27	15:47			
Lakelands Academy	08:40	15:35			

TELEPHONE: 01691 622543 | EMAIL: [finance@lakelandsacademy.org.uk](mailto:finance@lakelandsacademy.org.uk)



**PARENTS/CARERS PLEASE  
REMEMBER TO CHECK SHOW MY  
HOMEWORK. YOU WILL BE ABLE  
TO SEE WHAT HOMEWORK HAS  
BEEN SET AND IN SOME CASES IF  
THE HOMEWORK HAS BEEN  
HANDLED IN.**

# Attention All Parents!

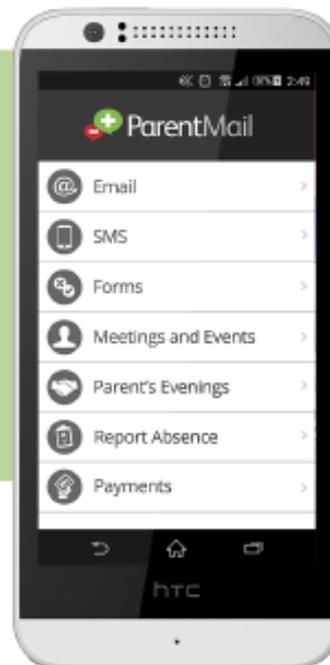


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The logo for School Shop Direct is presented on a white spiral-bound notebook page. The word 'SCHOOL' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on an orange rectangular background. To its right, the word 'SHOP' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a blue rectangular background. Below 'SHOP', the word 'DIRECT' is written in smaller, white, sans-serif capital letters on the same blue background. The entire logo is enclosed in a thin orange border.

# SCHOOL SHOP DIRECT

**There are several ways to buy items**

**Shop** *Opening days/times overleaf*

**Telephone** *Call us on 01743 440 449*

**Online** *www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk*

**Email** *info@schoolshopdirect.co.uk*

**Why not come and see us?**

Unit 17 / 18  
Sundorne Trade Park  
Featherbed lane  
Shrewsbury  
SY1 4NS

[www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk](http://www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk)