



Sir Thomas Wharton
Academy

KS3 Electives

Wednesday Afternoons
Block 2



KS3 Electives

Our exciting elective offer below will secure a breadth of opportunity for all our students and create memories that will last a lifetime. Our inspiring provision will foster students' imagination, broaden their interests, develop their specialisms and offer insights into potential future careers. These bespoke enrichment opportunities will not only advantage our students, but also our community through mutually beneficial cooperative partnerships. These strong collaborative links will prepare our students to become holistic young people who are successful learners for life, responsible citizens and confident individuals.

Each elective will run every Wednesday after lunch. Below is the list of the activities along with a description of what students will do in each of the electives. Students will choose four electives and will secure one of them in the first ten week block, before selecting again for the next blocks. To get the best experience possible, some of the electives on offer will take place offsite. This may require students to walk to a venue with supervising members of staff. Furthermore, to maximise the time available, some electives will finish at the offsite location. As a result, where this is the case, students will need to make their own way home from the respective venue. Where there is a possibility of an elective finishing off site, we have highlighted the activity in **pink**. Students should only select this option if they can safely make their own way home from the location. This needs to have been agreed with a parent/carer.

Allegro Dance Academy OFFSITE

Love to dance or keen to try something new? The Allegro Dance Academy Elective offers students the opportunity to develop their dance skills, build confidence, and express themselves through movement in a fun and supportive environment. Whether you're an experienced performer or a complete beginner, you'll learn new techniques, explore a variety of dance styles, and work collaboratively with others to create exciting routines. Along the way, you'll improve fitness, teamwork, creativity, and performance skills, with opportunities to showcase your talents through performances and school events

Badminton

Join the pinnacle of our sport at STWA where badminton has grown into the most successful sport within our Academy at Sir Thomas Wharton. Help us to continue this success and whilst learning the true art of playing the fastest sport on our planet, learn, make friends and discover what it takes to play this game of badminton.

Board and Beyond

Are you interested in engaging in intellectually stimulating activities while enjoying a welcoming social environment? Board and Beyond offers an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow students, challenge your strategic thinking, and experience a variety of board games, from timeless classics to modern favourites. Our elective welcomes participants of all skill levels, providing a space for both casual players and seasoned enthusiasts. Whether you seek friendly competition or simply wish to try something new, the Board and beyond is the perfect place for you. We look forward to welcoming you to our community of game enthusiasts!



Boxing

Do you have a passion for combat sports? If you do then the Boxing elective is for you! This elective will challenge and develop your physical fitness as well as equip you with the self-discipline and mental fortitude to be successful at whatever you set your mind to. Over the ten week block you will work on your physical fitness and follow a boxing specific training plan that has been developed to push you beyond your perceived limits. You will get to use state of the art boxing equipment in a safe and controlled environment which will allow you to develop your boxing technique. The elective will be delivered by the gym of former WBC Light Welterweight Champion Junior Witter.

Chess Masterclass

Would you like to learn how to be a chess grandmaster like Garry Kasparov, Magnus Carlson or Bobby Fischer? Or would you just like to play a game that tests your concentration, strategy design and ability to think two steps ahead of your opponent? Either way sign up for Chess Masterclass with Mr Prescott. We will provide the board and pieces (though feel free to bring along your own set if you'd prefer) and hopefully we should be getting a few special guest visitors from "UK Chess in Schools" to deliver expert workshops to help you improve your game.

Comedy and Drama / The Show Must Go On!

Get ready to laugh, explore, and perform in our exciting Comedy & Drama course! Designed for budding performers and creatives, this course dives into the art of improvisation, devising original material, and building bold, entertaining characters. Over the ten weeks, you'll work collaboratively to develop and rehearse your own unique pieces, blending humour and drama to create original plays that showcase your creativity and confidence on stage. Bring your ideas, energy, and imagination - it's time to take centre stage.

Creative Writing Sci-Fi

Step into the extraordinary and let your imagination take flight. In this creative writing elective, you'll explore the boundless possibilities of science fiction and fantasy—crafting stories that travel through distant galaxies, re-imagine the future, and bring magical worlds to life. Through guided exercises and workshops, you'll develop skills in world-building, character creation, and plot design, learning how to create believable universes filled with compelling conflicts and vivid detail.

CrossFit / Fitness

Looking for a fun, high-energy way to get fit? CrossFit is all about strength, fitness, and community. Every workout is different, combining cardio, weights, and bodyweight exercises that can be scaled to any ability level—no experience needed! Challenge yourself, build confidence, and train alongside supportive teammates who motivate you to be your best. Get stronger, fitter, and feel amazing. Come give it a go!

Cultures Around The World OFFSITE

Explore the beliefs, traditions, and practices that shape cultures around the world. In this engaging elective, students will learn about major religions and visit or study different places of worship to better understand their significance and meaning. Through discussion, reflection, and respectful inquiry, you'll develop a deeper appreciation for diversity, shared values, and global perspectives. This course encourages open-minded thinking and curiosity, making it ideal for students interested in understanding how faith and community influence the world around us.



Football (Boys)

Are you keen to be part of a team? Do you want to showcase your competitive edge? The Football elective will allow you to demonstrate your skills, build teamwork & and develop your resilience. Could you be the next Ronaldo or Messi, if you think you're up to the challenge come and join us every Wednesday!

Game Show

Step into the spotlight and bring the excitement of game shows to life in this fast-paced and interactive elective. From designing your own quiz rounds to hosting and competing in games inspired by popular shows, students will experience the thrill of entertainment and teamwork. You'll explore different formats, create challenges, and even take on roles such as presenter, contestant, and producer.

Golf OFFSITE

If you are competitive, love the outdoors and enjoy spending quality time with your friends, then this is the elective for you. Golf is a sport that will take you to amazing places and introduce you to fantastic people, with a multitude of careers linked to the game. Over the 10 weeks, you will develop skills that will allow you to improve as a player, steel your mind and resolve, and post your best scores, allowing you to take on any course. This will culminate in a tournament played against your peers to determine who has bragging rights before you embark on your own golfing adventures.

Helping Hands OFFSITE DE

Do you love helping others and giving back to the local community? Well, Helping Hands needs you! The centre is a sustainable project in the heart of the community delivering a wide range of services. Across the course of the elective you will visit the Helping Hands Community Centre where you will take part in a range of different tasks including supporting in the tea room, food bank and shop. Additionally, you will get hands on experience in the reception and grounds supporting the admin team and caretaker. It really is a great opportunity to make a significant positive impact in our local area.

Hockey OFFSITE

Interested in trying a new sport? Already a keen hockey player? Either way, Hockey Elective is for you! Come along on Wednesday afternoons to have some fun, hone your fitness, and learn the fundamentals of one of the country's most popular team-based sports! You never know, you could become the next Gordie Howe, scoring over 801 career goals!

Horse Care OFFSITE

Do you enjoy being hands-on? Does working outdoors, whatever the weather, appeal? Do you consider yourself to be reasonably fit? Does working with horses fill you with excitement? Do you have a positive, 'can-do' attitude? If you answered yes to the above, we look forward to meeting you at the National Horse Racing College in Doncaster. During the Horse Care Elective, you'll learn how to muck out a stable, handle, groom and tack up a horse and clean tack. In addition, you'll receive riding tuition on our mechanical horses. Over the 9/10 weeks, this practical programme will allow you to gain the skills to progress onto a full-time training programme and ultimately to work in the equine industry.

Lego

Playing Lego helps to improve problem solving skills, build resilience and perseverance whilst working on mathematics and spatial awareness. It's also a great way to relax, unwind, experiment and try out new things. With it's open ended nature, there are a million possibilities - what will you build in the Lego Elective?.

Like a Boss

Do you want to learn the basics of how to take a product from inception to market and beyond? 'Like a Boss' invites you to tackle their real world business challenge whilst building key skills that will set you up for success. You'll bring the project to life through design, promotion and beyond! Working as a team you will develop public speaking abilities, take on leadership roles, and explore how making positive choices can impact both your personal growth and the community. Through collaboration and creative problem-solving, you'll gain hands-on experience that will prepare you to face challenges with confidence, lead with purpose, and make a lasting impact.



Mindful Steps OFFSITE

Slow down, step outside, and reconnect with both yourself and your surroundings. This mindful walking elective blends gentle physical activity with relaxation and reflection, helping students build focus, reduce stress, and improve overall wellbeing. Through guided walks, breathing techniques, and moments of quiet observation, you'll learn how to be fully present while enjoying the outdoors. Perfect for students seeking a calm, refreshing break in their day, this course encourages a healthy balance of movement, mindfulness, and mental clarity.

Minecraft

Do you want to learn to creatively solve problems? Are you interested in helping a whole school project? If being creative and digital design spark your interest, this elective is for you! We will learn the basics of using programming in Minecraft to help design and create in a digital world. The aim is for you assist with a whole school project to design a digital world, for use in our community.

Musical Theatre Choir

Step into the spotlight and experience the magic of performance in the Musical Theatre Choir elective. This lively and expressive course brings together singing, movement, and drama as students learn and perform songs from popular musicals and stage productions. From classic show tunes to modern hits, you'll develop your vocal skills while building confidence and stage presence.

Printmaking / Art

Unleash your creativity through the art of printmaking in this practical and engaging 10-week course. You'll explore a range of exciting techniques such as monoprinting, linocut, and gelli printing, learning how to design, carve, ink, and produce your own original prints. Along the way, you'll develop key artistic skills in composition, mark-making, and visual experimentation, while enhancing your understanding of traditional and contemporary artists. Possible career paths include Illustrator, Printmaker, Pattern Designer, Art Therapist.



Quiz Club

Put your knowledge to the test and have fun competing in the Quiz Club elective. This fast-paced and engaging course challenges students across a wide range of topics, from general knowledge and current events to pop culture, science, and more. Through team and individual quizzes, you'll sharpen your recall, improve your thinking speed, and learn new facts every session.

Reading / Oracy / Primary Buddies

OFFSITE DE

Make a positive impact while building confidence and creativity in the Primary School Buddies elective. This rewarding course gives students the opportunity to work with younger pupils, supporting their reading skills and bringing stories to life through drama and performance. Through activities such as paired reading, storytelling, role play, and simple drama techniques, students will help inspire a love of books while developing their own communication, leadership, and empathy skills.

The Rocketry and Science Society

Blast off into the science of space and discover how we explore the universe. In this exciting elective, you'll dive into the physics of rockets, the mysteries of planets and stars, and the technology that powers space travel. From launching spacecraft to understanding black holes, you'll uncover how science turns imagination into reality. Through hands-on activities and investigations, you'll explore principles like forces, motion, and energy while learning how rockets are designed and launched. You'll also study the solar system and beyond—examining galaxies, space missions, and the search for life in the universe.

Rugby

If you would like to learn and develop your Rugby Union skills, whilst improving your officiating, teamwork and understanding of the game of Rugby Union, then this is the elective for you! There are also exciting opportunities to work alongside the South Yorkshire Referees Society, Rugby Football Union (RFU) and Doncaster Knights.

Sew and Craft

OFFSITE

Do you have creative flare and a passion for helping others? Sew and craft will offer an outlet for your creativity by working on a project using the sewing equipment in school and at the Sewing Mindfulness workshop in Edlington. Over the course of 10 sessions, you will design a project using a vision board before developing the skills and techniques to turn your vision into reality! This is the perfect elective for anyone interested in a career in fashion design.

Sing Stars

OFFSITE

Do you love singing and being on stage? Or do you already sing and want to learn more? Whether you are new to singing or an upcoming pro this elective is for you. For 10 weeks you will learn the basics of singing technique, learn a song, then add some staging ready to perform at the end of the 10 week block!

Special Event Food Catering

If you enjoy preparing and cooking food, then this is the elective for you. The Special Event Food Catering elective will allow you to follow recipes to create a range of food typically enjoyed at special occasion events, such as a birthday party. You will develop your food preparation skills, as well as following all health and food hygiene rules to create excellent dishes, such as sausage rolls, scones, pizzas, cupcakes and pastry dishes. You will learn new techniques of presentation and aim towards serving your dishes to an invited group of guests. Potential career paths include baker, chef, nutritionist, party organiser, caterer, kitchen assistant, restaurant owner, manager, assistant or waitress.

Street Dance

Have you ever wished to join the commercial entertainment industry? You could dance backup for an established artist, perform in TV shows and music videos, or even become the next big commercial choreographer. Whatever your choice, Street/Commercial Dance Elective will give you a taste of everything this industry has to offer. You'll have the opportunity to learn routines that combine elements of modern, jazz, hip-hop, break-dancing and more as well as studying some of the leading names in street dance! The next 'Diversity' might be right here at STWA...

Sign Language

Discover the power of communication beyond words. This engaging sign language elective introduces students to the basics of visual language, including vocabulary, grammar, and cultural awareness. Through interactive activities, real world practice, and a focus on inclusivity, students will build confidence in expressing themselves while gaining a deeper understanding of Deaf culture and community. Whether you're interested in learning a new language, expanding your communication skills, or connecting with others in a meaningful way, this course offers a unique and rewarding experience.

STWA Community task force- Pride of Edlington

OFFSITE

DE

This exciting elective combines community service, teamwork, and leadership, giving students the opportunity to make a real impact both within the academy and across the local area. Working together on a variety of community projects and events, students will develop valuable practical and organisational skills while making a difference to the people around them. Throughout the course, you will help plan, organise, and support community initiatives, including the Pride of Edlington Awards, which celebrate local achievements and contributions. Students will take part in event planning, promotion, fundraising, and community outreach, gaining experience in project management, communication, and teamwork.



STWA Bake Off

Ready, set, bake! Join the STWA Bake Off Elective and discover the art of baking while creating delicious treats from scratch. Whether you're a complete beginner or an aspiring star baker, you'll learn essential baking techniques, experiment with exciting recipes, and develop your creativity in the kitchen. From cakes and cookies to pastries and show-stoppers, this hands-on elective is the perfect opportunity to build confidence, work as a team, and enjoy the sweet rewards of your hard work. Come along and whisk up something amazing!

STWA Marketplace DE

Turn creativity into enterprise with the STWA Marketplace elective. In this exciting, hands-on course, students will design, create, and promote products or services to sell within a school-based marketplace. From designing and customising clothing and accessories to creating unique fashion pieces or branded merchandise, students will experience every step of the entrepreneurial journey.

Talking Paper DE

Bring ideas to life through the art of "talking paper." In this creative elective, students explore how images and words work together to communicate meaning in powerful, engaging ways. Using techniques like annotations, speech bubbles, diagrams, and visual storytelling, students will transform ordinary pages into interactive spaces that "speak" to the reader. This course builds skills in creativity, critical thinking, and visual communication, making it perfect for students who enjoy expressing ideas beyond traditional writing. Whether explaining a concept, telling a story, or sharing a perspective, talking paper turns your page into a voice.

The Power of Public Speaking

Find your voice, build your confidence, and learn to inspire others through the art of public speaking. This exciting elective is perfect for students who want to develop their communication skills, think on their feet, and become confident speakers. Working as part of a supportive team, you'll take part in engaging speaking challenges, debates, and presentations on a range of current and thought-provoking topics. Whether you dream of becoming a leader, lawyer, performer, entrepreneur, or simply want to grow in confidence, The Power of Public Speaking will equip you with skills that will benefit you for life.

The Wharton Chronicle By Students, For Students DE

Unleash your creativity and become part of a student-led publication in the STWA Magazine elective. In this exciting course, students will plan, write, design, and publish their own magazine, covering topics that matter to them—from school life and current events to fashion, entertainment, and opinion pieces.

#ThisGirlCan (girls sports)

Feel empowered, get active, and build confidence in a supportive and inclusive environment. Inspired by the #ThisGirlCan movement, this elective encourages students to try a variety of sports and physical activities in a fun, pressure-free way. From team sports like football, netball, and basketball to individual activities such as yoga, dance fitness, running, and circuit training, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Alongside getting active, students will explore topics like body confidence, wellbeing, and resilience, helping to build a positive relationship with exercise. Perfect for anyone looking to boost self-esteem, try new sports, and support others, this course is all about participation, encouragement, and celebrating every achievement—big or small.

Visual Design Studio

Step into the world of digital creativity in Visual Design Studio, an exciting elective where your ideas come to life through professional design tools. Students will develop practical skills in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator while creating eye-catching promotional materials such as posters, T-shirts, and branding assets. This course goes beyond the classroom by offering the opportunity to work from a real-world design brief, potentially set by a local business. Students will explore the full creative process—from interpreting a client's needs to developing and presenting polished design solutions.

Y9 Careers Clinic OFFSITE

Start planning your future with confidence in the Year 9 Careers Clinic elective. This supportive and practical course helps students explore different career pathways, understand their strengths, and set meaningful goals for the future. Through workshops, discussions, and real-life scenarios, you'll gain insight into a wide range of industries and opportunities.



Elective		Timings	Address	Transport Arrangements	
OFFSITE	Allegro Dance Academy	12:45-14:50	Allegro Dance Academy, Clayfields Industrial Estate, Doncaster, DN4 8QG	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students to access academy booked transport.
OFFSITE	Cultures Around the World	Offsite session to be confirmed by elective leader.	Various. To be communicated with parents/careers throughout the block.	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students to access academy booked transport.
OFFSITE	Golf	Some sessions will be accessed offsite. Further details to be confirmed by elective leader.	Doncaster Golf Club, 278 Bawtry Road, Bessacarr, Doncaster, DN4 7NX or Kingswood Golf Course Thorne Road Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6EP	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students to access academy booked transport.
OFFSITE	Helping Hands	13:10-14:50	Edlington Hilltop Centre, Edlington Lane, Doncaster, DN12 1PL	Students to walk to the venue with supervising members of staff.	Students to make their own way home from the venue.
OFFSITE	Hockey	4 sessions will be accessed offsite. Further details to be confirmed by elective leader.	Hall Cross Upper School, 28 Thorne Road, Doncaster, DNI 2HY	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students to access academy booked transport.
OFFSITE	Horse Care	12:35-14:50	The Stables, Great North Road, Rossington, Doncaster, DNI 1 OHN	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students to access academy booked transport.
OFFSITE	Mindful Steps	13:10-14:50	Various. To be communicated with parents/careers throughout the block.	Students will complete the walk with their 2 electives leaders.	Students will return to the academy prior to end of the day. Collect/go home as normal.
OFFSITE	Primary Buddies	13:10-14:50	Edlington Victoria Academy, Victoria Road, Doncaster, DN12 IBN	Students to walk to the venue with supervising members of staff.	Students to make their own way home from the venue.
OFFSITE	Sew and Craft	13:10-14:50	5 York Buildings, Edlington Lane, New Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 IBU	Students to walk to the venue with supervising members of staff.	Students to make their own way home from the venue.
OFFSITE	Sing Stars	13:10-14:50	Montgomery Hall Theatre, Church Street, Wath-Up-on- Dearne, Rotherham, S63 7RD	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students will return to the academy prior to end of the day. Collect/go home as normal.
OFFSITE	STWA Community task force-Pride of Edlington	13:10-14:50	Edlington Hilltop Centre, Edlington Lane, Doncaster, DN12 1PL	Students to walk to the venue with supervising members of staff.	Students to make their own way home from the venue.
OFFSITE	Y9 Careers Clinic	13:10-14:50	Doncaster College, Chappel Drive, Doncaster, DN1 2RF	Students to access academy booked transport.	Students will return to the academy prior to end of the day. Collect/go home as normal.





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