Should and ought have very similar meanings. In fact, they can often replace each other.

We **should** work hard, shouldn’t we? OR We **ought to** work hard, shouldn’t we?

Both **should** and **ought** are used to talk about obligation and duty. They are also used to say what we think it is right for people to do. Note that **should** is more common than **ought**.

You **should** have a word with him. OR You **ought to** have a word with him.

**Should** and **ought** are not used in polite requests.

**Could** you move a bit? (NOT Should you move a bit?)

**Logical possibility**
Both **should** and **ought** can be used to talk about logical possibility.

I have bought two dozen apples – that **should** / **ought to** be enough.
That **should be** John knocking at the door. OR That **ought to be** John knocking at the door.

**Notes**

**Should** is followed by an infinitive **without to**. **Ought** is followed by an **infinitive with to**.

We **should help** the needy. (NOT We should to help the needy.)
We ought to help the needy. (NOT We ought help the needy.)

**Must** and **should**/**ought**

**Must** have similar meanings to **should** and **ought**, but it is stronger. **Must** shows great confidence that something will happen. **Ought** and **should** express less confidence.

The teacher said that the students **must learn** the lesson. (This is kind of an order which is likely to be obeyed.)
The teacher said that the students **should** / **ought to** learn the lesson. (This is kind of a piece of advice which may or may not be followed.)

That **must be** John. (= I am sure that it is John.)
That **should** / **ought to be** John. (= I think that is John.)