

## Humanities Faculty

The Faculty, which boasts an experienced and hardworking staff, is a forward looking, successful and thriving part of Rainhill Media Arts College

### Faculty Aims

The Humanities Faculty aims to

- Promote an enjoyment of learning, where pupils are encouraged to become independent, multi-skilled learners that achieve highly.
- By studying the different humanities subjects students can better appreciate the world in which we live, how the past has shaped our future and the multi-cultural society in which we now all live.
- Employ a range of teaching techniques providing equal opportunities to all students
- We aim to help all pupils to reach their potential and to foster a lifelong interest in these subjects.
- Enable pupils to see outside of themselves with study of the natural and human world around them, it's past, religious traditions and social values.
- Enable young people to make sense of the modern world, 'the global village', helping them to become valuable citizens and provide the context and background for all other human activity. The Humanities subjects are vital to any student's education.

### Facilities

The Humanities subjects have dedicated specialist classrooms in the main school and shared humanities classrooms in the sixth form. All rooms have a computer and interactive whiteboard for teachers and the school has several ICT suites as well as laptop/iPad banks that are available to book for student use.

### Staffing

Jo Parkinson	Head of Faculty, Head of Geography
Caroline A'Bear	Head of History <b>Maternity leave</b>
Rachel Evans	Head of RE
Jacqui Ayre	RE Teacher/ Head of Citizenship
Gill Booth	RE/Sociology Teacher and KS3 Progress Leader
Lesley Anne Fleming	History Teacher
<b>Vacancy</b>	Geography Teacher
Susan Jones	Geography Teacher
Jane Marshall	History Teacher
Daniel Procter	History and Government and Politics Teacher
Jo West	History Teacher and Year 11 Progress Leader
Helen Wood	Geography Teacher

The Faculty structure is led by the Head of Faculty, supported by Heads of Department for individual curriculum areas.

### Curriculum

#### Key Stage 3

Students follow a two year key stage 3 curriculum pathway, choosing their option subjects in Year 8. Geography, History and RE are taught as discreet subjects at key stage three and are grouped by their literacy ability.

One less able group is also taught Humanities as a separate course in year 7.

#### Key Stage 4

The Faculty offers History as a Full Course GCSE from year 9 onwards.

#### Key Stage 5

The Faculty offers an A2 course in History.

### **2017 Examination Performance**

<b>History</b>	<b>GCSE</b>			<b>A Level</b>		
<b>2017</b>	<b>No of Students = 116</b>	A/A*	34.5%	<b>No of Students = 18</b>	A*-B	55.6%
		A-C	72.4%		A*-C	100%
<b>2016</b>	<b>No of Students = 112</b>	A/A*	49.1%	<b>No of Students = 19</b>	A*-B	52.6%
		A-C	91.1%		A*-C	94.7%

### **Examinations Specifications**

#### **GCSE**

Course – AQA History

Rainhill has an above average intake. In 2018/19 we will have 300 students in Year 7&8, and 240 in Years 9, 10, 11. As such, significant cohorts follow an EBacc pathway.

<b>Student numbers in Geography</b>	<b>Y9</b>	<b>Y10</b>	<b>Y11</b>	<b>Y12</b>	<b>Y13</b>
<b>2015/16</b>	142	116	112	18	19
<b>2016/17</b>	143	142	116	17	18
<b>2017/18</b>	113	143	142	26	17

#### **A Level courses studied:**

AQA History

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Humanities visits are frequent and popular. Examples from recent academic years are;

GCSE History trips to Berlin & Krakow

GCSE Geography trips to Sicily, and various parts of the UK.

KS3 History trip to First World War battlefield sites

KS3 Enrichment trips involving students participating in workshops led by the Anne Frank Trust

I am very proud of my team of teachers. They are excellent classroom practitioners. We work well together, we support each other, share resources, and discuss best practice in terms of pedagogy as well as approaches to teaching topics within each subject.

I am proud of the efforts we make for our students in and out of the classroom. History, Geography and RE are crucial areas of the curriculum, and children's lives. My team do a great job in helping our students achieve great exam results and become thoughtful citizens with an appreciation and understanding of the world around them.

**Jo Parkinson**  
**Head of Humanities Faculty**

**John Pout's comment:**

*I love working alongside Jo Parkinson. Her impact as Head of Geography and Head of Humanities has been significant. She is an excellent leader who has brought excellent subject knowledge, passion, intelligence and astute leadership skills to the role. She looks after her staff, and helps them to become even better. You can see her impact in the improved exam results at GCSE and A level as well as the increased popularity of the subjects at both Key Stage 4 and Post 16.*

*For me the trends in society national and internationally make the vibrant teaching of Humanities subjects even more important than ever before. I want our students to leave school and make our world a better, more tolerant, respectful and sustainable place. Our Humanities team will get our full backing to help do just that.*