**Physical Education Department**

At The Ruth Gorse Academy, Physical Education and Sport plays an integral part in day to day life; students are provided with the opportunity to access a wide variety of physical activities. We firmly believe that all students should be encouraged to take part in sport and physical activity which provides them with a medium through which they can develop the competence and confidence to participate in lifelong activities. Uniquely, rowing and volleyball are the two main focuses of the Academy and are both held with upmost importance within the school.

The Physical Education department is a vibrant and hardworking department where staff feel valued and supported in everything they do. There are currently 4 full time members of PE staff and 1 full time rowing coach. We also have a part time Volleyball Coach and a 2nd Dan in Karate who delivers 2 Karate sessions per week.

The current facilities include a state of the art sports hall, 1 indoor rowing room, dance suite and a dedicated classroom for BTEC lessons. There are 2 changing facilities for both boys and girls. Outside there is a MUGA pitch, sprint track and a large tarmac area where a number of sporting activities can be delivered. We also have a partnership with the local boathouse, where all the Academy’s rowing water sessions take place.

In 2018/19 Year 7 students will have two single lessons of PE per week and all other year groups one lesson. On top of this, all students in KS3 are expected to take part in one compulsory physical activity club as part of their PE homework. This allows students to explore a range of activities and skills differentiated to their level of performance. This also gives students the opportunity to work towards their recommended weekly amount of exercise, which we encourage all students to achieve.

At KS4 students have the option of BTEC Sport Level 2. This qualification is designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in sport and gives learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. The BTEC covers 4 units; Fitness for Sport and Exercise, Practical Sports Performance, Training for Personal Fitness and Planning and Leading Sports Activities.

Students are assessed after each activity, in line with the whole school assessment policy. This is recorded on our PE database for monitoring and tracking purposes and has allowed us to personalise the curriculum with a wide and varied range of sport and physical activities.

The extra-curricular programme provided by the PE Department is of a very high standard and provides a range of activities, teams and opportunities for every student to be involved.

To compliment this programme, a House Competition is run throughout the year; this covers a range of sporting activities. A formal presentation is held to celebrate all sporting achievements with a special award presented in the memory of our former colleague and Head of PE, Ruth Gorse, for outstanding achievement by a student.

The PE Department is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and dedicated teacher who can further enhance this dynamic department and continue to raise the high standards and expectations for the whole school. Experience within Volleyball or Rowing would be welcomed but is not essential.