



# The Redhill Academy

## THE ARTS AT THE REDHILL ACADEMY

### Our definition of the Arts

1. The Arts in their broadest sense encompass all the experiences which help students to develop creatively, expressively, technologically and culturally. These experiences are delivered generally through the National Curriculum, and explicitly at Redhill through Music, Drama, Art and Dance.
2. The Performing Arts Faculty at present consists of:

Elizabeth Bates	Faculty Leader - The Arts and Head of Drama
Rachel Dunn	Head of Dance
Yolanda Thomas	Head of Music
Andrea Swann	Head of Art
Keith Latham	Music
Reema Udeshi	Dance
Amy Metcalfe	Art
Michelle Seaton	Drama, Dance and Music
Claire Warren	Art
Matt Haslam	ICT Technician

The Faculty is enhanced by a large team of enthusiastic peripatetic teachers, which reflects the high number of students receiving instrumental and vocal lessons.

3. At Redhill we:
  - provide opportunities for all students to have access to a broad range of Arts experiences and to achieve success
  - work with Arts partners in the community in the promotion and further development of the provision for the Arts in Arnold and beyond
  - work closely with local primary and secondary schools to promote the Arts
  - are developing strategies to improve resources for the Arts for the use of the school and the local community, in partnership with the local community and other organisations, e.g. Notts Performing Arts
  - are developing technological resources to reflect the skills and expectations of the Arts industries, careers and vocational courses
  - ensure that staff have opportunities to attend CPD courses which keep them up to date in their specialist areas
  - will continue to support activities which enable staff to share good practice and expertise





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4. The Faculty is at a very exciting stage of development as it continues to expand in line with the challenges and opportunities offered by specialist status in the Performing Arts. Each subject (Art, Music, Drama and Dance) is taught to students across the full age and ability range including GCSE, AS and A2 with a large number of students opting to study a Performing Arts subject in Key Stage 4 and Post-16. The school is well known locally as well as further afield for both the breadth and quality of its extra-curricular work in the Performing Arts involving very large numbers of students in a variety of activities, e.g. Redhill's participation in 'Science on Stage' at Nottingham's Royal Concert Hall. There are school-based productions, plays, exhibitions and concerts, which run throughout the school year, as well as various trips and tours (recent destinations have included Germany, Austria, Italy and New York). Accommodation continues to be updated and we now have a fully equipped Music/ICT room with ensuite recording studio, a Dance studio, Drama studios as well as a superb hall which is regularly used for public performances.

## Art and Design at Redhill

The department has three specialist teaching rooms and one additional room dedicated as a Sixth Form work room. Art is a very popular option at GCSE. We deliver two separate art-based A Levels; Fine Art and Photography, as well as the Fine Art GCSE.

At AS and A2 Level, students follow the OCR syllabus and student numbers reflect the more vocational aspect of the subject with smaller class sizes but with a high proportion progressing to Foundation and Degree courses in Art.

At KS3 students are taught in mixed ability groups and learn a wide range of skills, including drawing and painting, printmaking and sculpture. We also place a strong emphasis on the art history content of the projects, right from Year 7 to 13. Students follow a structured curriculum which aims to develop their creative, practical and expressive skills. They explore art through a range of different cultural and historical perspectives, learning skills in KS3 that are then developed and extended as they move through GCSE and into A Level.

Sketchbooks are used in all year groups and play an extremely important role in the development of students work. We pride ourselves on the positive environment and work ethic that exists within the department. We run a wide range of extra-curricular activities during both lunchtimes and after school. These include 'aim higher' sessions for GCSE, as well as lunchtime homework sessions for the younger students.

## Music at Redhill





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Music at Redhill already has a high profile within the school, with all students at Key Stage 3 being taught music in mixed-ability groups for one hour each week. Music is popular at Key Stage 4, too, where students follow the OCR syllabus achieving results above the national average. Sixth Form students have the opportunity to follow the Edexcel AS and A2 course in Music. Approximately forty students take GCSE Music across Years 9, 10 and 11, with five students currently taking AS and A2 Music across Years 12 and 13. We also offer Music Technology as a twilight option within Key Stage 4 with students across Years 10 and 11 taking this option.

The Music Department is well stocked with a networked computer suite as well as tuned and untuned percussion, electronic keyboards and a range of amplification and recording equipment to support both classroom and extra-curricular work. The department is staffed by two full-time specialist Music teachers and visiting peripatetic instrumental teaching staff. Extra-curricular musical activity is exceptional both in terms of breadth and quality, which is recognised by the Arts Council via their 'Arts Mark Gold' award.

## **Drama at Redhill**

Drama is a very popular and successful subject which is taught as a core subject to all Key Stage 3 students. Large numbers opt for GCSE Drama in Key Stage 4 as well as AS/A2. The department is staffed by one full-time and one part-time member of staff and runs a variety of extra-curricular activities attracting large numbers of students from all year groups. There is a flourishing community drama programme and regular Drama input into our main feeder primary schools.

## **Dance at Redhill**

Dance is taught as a 'core' subject at Key Stage 3 and is at present offered to Years 7 and 8. GCSE Dance is an option at Key Stage 4 and there are groups in both Years 10 and 11. The subject is also offered to students in Key Stage 5. The department comprises a Head of Dance and a full-time teacher. Extra-curricular work flourishes and there is regular dance input into our main feeder primary schools.

## **Performing Arts College Status**

Many of the above developments have been driven by our specialist status which has continued to galvanise work in the Performing Arts. We enjoy excellent relationships with our feeder primaries and are able to offer them substantial support in developing music, drama and dance within their own institutions.

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