THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Chesham Grammar School is a successful and popular mixed grammar school which has a roll of 1300 pupils (400 in the Sixth Form).

We are looking for an enthusiastic and committed professional for the role of Subject Leader of Girls’ Physical Education (maternity cover) who will be involved in teaching the full range of the curriculum, from Year 7 to Year 13 including the opportunity of teaching GCSE PE for the right candidate.

The Physical Education Department at Chesham Grammar School comprises of a team of 6 experienced and highly committed professionals. The department also has a full time PE Technician. Physical Education is a compulsory subject throughout the school (Year 7 - Year 13). At Key Stage 3 the pupils follow a programme of study comprising traditional games including; netball, hockey, rounders, basketball, trampolining, badminton, gymnastics, cross country, fitness, swimming, dance, rugby, football, tennis, orienteering, physique (use of the gym fitness equipment) athletics and cricket.

At Key Stage 4 the pupils experience an in depth programme of study including; netball, volleyball, rounders, dance, rugby, football, physique, tennis, softball, cricket, basketball, trampolining, badminton as well as options for table tennis, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee and handball. Pupils also follow a fitness programme where they are encouraged to develop their knowledge and understanding of how to keep fit and design a weekly session for them to perform to improve their fitness. In Year 11 there is an element of pupil choice in the activities offered, where pupils are expected to show their leadership skills as well as their ability in sport to maintain their fitness and enjoyment of sport. For the Sixth Form pupils, a wide range of activities are offered within an options programme from traditional games to swimming and use of the facilities at the Leisure Centre which is next to the school buildings. Two hours of PE lessons per week are allocated in Years 7 - 11; one hour per week in Years 12 - 13. Pupils are taught in single gender PE groups in KS3 and KS4 and mixed gender PE groups where appropriate in KS5.

The subject is a popular option for GCSE with 2 classes of pupils each year (OCR exam board). Students have consistently achieved results above the national average and of many other grammar schools. Pupils also have the opportunity to join the Sports Leaders Award (SLA) in Year 12 and take part in a comprehensive programme of other leadership courses and qualifications where they can expand their knowledge of how to lead and run activities in the role of the umpire/referee or coach. Pupils are also encouraged to contribute to helping in the busy extra-curricular programme on offer at the school.

Specialist facilities include a gymnasium, six floodlit tarmac tennis courts/4 netball courts and extensive playing fields. The school also has use of the on-site Leisure Centre, with sports hall, swimming pool, dance studio and fitness suite.

The Department runs a very successful extra-curricular programme throughout the school. As a consequence, we are able to compete at District, County and National level in a variety of sports and non-team pupils are able to develop their fitness and increase their participation levels in sport. We have an outstanding reputation locally and regionally for participation and high level performance in sport, in particular netball, hockey, swimming, gymnastics, football, cricket, athletics and rounders, where teams have achieved both individual and collective success during the schools' history, particularly in recent years.

We regularly enter local, county and regional competitions in a variety of sports as we look to further expand our provision and inspire our students to achieve in sport.

The Chesham Grammar School approach to Learning (the CGS Learner) is thoroughly embedded within our lessons in PE as it encourages resilient learners who co-operate and collaborate their learning with others, relish challenges and enjoy learning. PE lessons are planned to develop and encourage pupil leadership from year 7, with older pupils becoming confident, willing and enthusiastic helpers throughout our busy extra-curricular programme including the coaching and umpiring of younger pupils. Our inter-house sports events support our vertical tutoring format in the school where pupils from different age groups work together. All pupils participate in winter and summer House Sports, cross country, badminton, basketball, swimming to support our ‘sport for all’ ethos at the school.

Currently we use the expertise of external coaches in netball, rugby, cricket, golf and athletics to support the PE department staff, in addition to members of staff from other subject areas who allow us to maintain our provision for extra-curricular. Staff from a range of subjects have shown a keen interest in a variety of sports in recent years including; hockey, cross country, basketball, trampolining and gymnastics which is a culture we would like to continue to build upon.