



*"Achievement by
Faith and Work"*

The Physical Education Department

Information for prospective applicants

Ethos

Physical Education is a highly successful department that is an essential part of St Margaret's curriculum. Many students choose to come to St Margaret's because of our sporting reputation and proud tradition of competitive success across many different sports. Extra-curricular provision is strong, and the PE team (and others) give freely of their time to enable it to thrive.

Physical Education has a vision to create a positive learning environment that creates a thirst for progress, both physically and academically, instilling lifelong engagement in sport and exercise. Our area is unique: by enjoying time out of the classroom and engaging in physical exercise, our students will enjoy proven benefits of improving both physical and mental health, decreasing stress, and building social relationships with their peers. We are committed to developing an environment in which our students work outside their comfort zone, utilising new opportunities and embracing mistakes and misconceptions as a vehicle to progression and improvement.

Personnel

The Department comprises:

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| • Colin Parkes | Head of PE | • Robert Kingston | PE Teacher/Head of Year |
| • Nuala Dunne | PE Teacher/Head of Year | • Robert Lawton | PE Teacher/Assistant |
| • Neil Harrison | PE Teacher/Head of Year | | Principal (Head of post-16) |
| • Robert Houghton | TLR postholder within PE | • Gordon Smith | part-time PE Technician |

Accommodation, specifications and resources

Facilities include a Cricket and Sports Centre, set back from our main school building; it contains a five-badminton court sports hall that has been specifically designed around the delivery of cricket for our students and those in the wider community. Other there include a multi-equipment gym, fitness studio and two dedicated PE theory classrooms, all equipped with multi-media projectors. Outside is a multi-use games area and several grass pitches for rugby and football. Monies for the department is used very adequately to cover day-to-day needs and includes a generous stock of PE equipment. Exam Board OCR is used for both GCSE and 'A'-level and Edexcel for BTEC Sport and Exercise Science post-16.

Standards

At key stage 3 our students have a great enthusiasm and thirst for Physical Education both in and out of lesson time. Their willingness to engage and learn in all activities is second to none. All our boys show very high standard of effort and application across every Physical Education strand. Moving up from lower school, students generally achieve well in Physical Education, with a consistently high uptake studying our qualifications of GCSE, A Level and BTEC. Studying these qualifications provides a fantastic foundation and skill set for our students going on to further education or gaining employment once they leave St Margaret's Academy.

Colin Parkes
Head of PE