



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 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
Karina Smith	Dance
Hayley Brookes	Dance
Siv James-Davis	Art
Claire Warren	Art
Jessica Stafford	Art
Evie Clark	Drama
Vicki Winning	Drama
Sean Diuk	Music
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 across the Trust and beyond
 - 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
 - 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
4. The Faculty continues to develop and expand in line with the challenges and opportunities first introduced by the attainment of specialist status in the Performing Arts. For example, the academy continues to allocate ten percent of Year 7 places to young people demonstrating outstanding aptitude in dance, drama and music. Furthermore, the Faculty has recently successfully evidenced the impact of the arts across the academy and beyond to achieve Arts Mark Gold.

Each subject (Art, Music, Drama and Dance) is taught to students across the full age and ability range including GCSE and A Level with a large number of students opting to study an Arts subject at 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 co-curricular work in the Performing Arts involving very large numbers of students in a variety of activities, e.g. the Radcliffe-on-Trent Carnival, annual Carol Concerts at a local church and annual carol singing in the community.

There are large scale school-based productions, plays, exhibitions and concerts, which run throughout the school year, as well as various trips and tours (recent destinations have included Holland, Germany, Disneyland Paris and New York). Accommodation continues to be updated and we now have a fully equipped Music/MAC suite with ensuite recording studio, a Dance studio, Drama studios as well as a superb hall which is regularly used for public performances.

Drama at Redhill

Drama is a very popular and successful subject which is taught as a 'core' subject to all Year 7 and 8 students and a high number of Year 9 students. Large numbers opt for GCSE Drama at Key Stage 4 and a significant number continue their studies to A Level. Students explore a wide range of dramatic texts and theatrical styles at all levels with high standards of performance work presented throughout.

The department is staffed by one full-time and two part-time members of staff and runs a variety of co-curricular activities attracting large numbers of students from all year groups. Aside from the large-scale biannual school production, students have the opportunity to participate in drama projects such as National Theatre Connections and New Views, plus prepare performance work for acting and musical theatre LAMDA examinations.

The opportunity to watch live theatre is also key to the student experience with recent visits including performances at Nottingham Playhouse, Sheffield Crucible Theatre and Leicester Curve. Students also benefit from established links with local practitioners, theatre companies and universities, participating in workshops led by experienced professionals.

Music at Redhill

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 Eduqas GCSE specification, achieving results above the national average. Sixth Form students have the opportunity to follow the Edexcel A Level course in Music. We also offer Music Technology as a twilight option within Key Stage 4. Students across Years 9 and 10 taking this option will study NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Music Technology.

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

Dance at Redhill

Dance is taught as a 'core' subject at Key Stage 3 and is at present taught to all Year 7 and 8 students plus a significant number of Year 9 students. GCSE Dance is an option at Key Stage 4 and there are sizeable groups studying at this level. The subject is also offered to students in Key Stage 5 and has small groups in both Year 12 and 13. The department comprises of the Head of Dance, a full-time and part-time teacher.

Co-curricular work flourishes through a range of dance clubs and there is regular dance input into our main feeder primary schools and wider community. Established links with local colleges, dance companies and theatres widen the breadth of opportunities offered to Redhill students.

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 with a large number of candidates. We deliver two separate art-based A Levels; Fine Art and Photography, as well as the Fine Art GCSE.

At A 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. There is also 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 co-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.

Performing Arts College Status

Many of the above developments were originally 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.