



CURRICULUM

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The Curriculum

Our aim is to provide a curriculum that enables all students to enjoy and achieve during their time at Redhill, as well as meeting all statutory requirements. We know we need to prepare our students for further education and all of the challenges which come with working in a dynamic and rapidly changing world.

At **Key Stage 3** (Years 7 and 8) students will study:

Art	English	Music
Computing	French	Physical Education
Dance	Geography	Philosophy, Religion & Ethics
Design & Technology	History	Science
Drama	Mathematics	PSHE

Some students with a particular aptitude for languages may be invited to study German in addition to French in Year 8.

A separate target group of students will be withdrawn from languages teaching in both Years 7 and 8 in order to create additional time for them to study Maths and English. Parents of the students involved in this scheme will be informed via letter before September of Year 7.

During Year 8 students receive advice about their options for Key Stage 4, and undertake career planning activities. Parents are invited to be part of the decision-making process.

At **Key Stage 4** (Years 9, 10 and 11) all students continue to study:

Mathematics	English (and English Literature)	Science
Physical Education	Religious Education (Short Course GCSE)	PSHE

Most students will also study a Humanities subject (**History, Geography**) and a Modern Foreign Language (**French, German**). However, all students are given the opportunity to choose these and other EBacc subjects (including **Computer Science, Triple Science**) from the following list:

Art	German
Business	BTEC Health & Social Care
Certificate in Digital Applications	History
Dance	Music
Design & Technology	GCSE PE
Drama	Religious Studies
French	Technical Award in Materials Technology
Food Preparation & Nutrition	
Geography	Textiles

Some students are directed to follow a slightly different Key Stage 4 course at foundation level. This affords an opportunity to improve their literacy and numeracy skills, develop confidence and the skills needed in the outside world, and take part in a range of activities. The course leads to an Level 1 qualification recognised by colleges.

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At **Key Stage 5** (Years 12 and 13) students have the choice to continue to study A-level courses in:

Art	Government & Politics
Biology	History
Business Studies	Mathematics
Chemistry	Media Studies
Computer Science	Music
Dance	Philosophy and Ethics
Drama	Photography
English Language	Physical Education
English Literature	Physics
French	Product Design
Further Mathematics	Psychology
Geography	Sociology
German	Textiles

We also offer Level 3 BTEC courses in **Forensic Science** and **Health & Social Care**, along with the opportunity to resit GCSE English and Mathematics.

Students can broaden their curriculum through our Enrichment programme which offers a range of further course and opportunities in:

<i>Level 1 Business Italian</i>	<i>Duke of Edinburgh</i>
<i>Level 1 Business Spanish</i>	<i>Sports Leaders Award</i>
<i>Young Enterprise</i>	<i>Student cooking</i>
<i>In class support</i>	

Further information can be found in the **Redhill Post-16 prospectus** available from the school office.





Examination Entry Policy

Students opting for examination courses at Key Stages 4 and 5 will be expected to complete all required controlled assessment and will be entered for appropriate examinations. The majority of students will sit GCSE examinations at the end of Year 11 and A Level examinations at the end of Year 13. In the Sixth Form, a range of Level 2 and 3 courses are also available to the students.

Monitoring Progress

We aim to encourage every student to make the best of him/herself, and achieve success. Records of the academic progress of all individuals are kept both by subject teachers and by Heads of House. Parents receive termly progress reports and a Parents' Evening is held for each Year group for consultation with class teachers. In addition there are review meetings where parents and students discuss progress and targets with form tutors. The Redhill Academy also uses data gathered from students' past performance and diagnostic tests to produce minimum target grades in all subjects. Performance is continually matched against these and parents informed when concerns over underachievement come to light.

Homework

All students are issued with a Planner at the start of the academic year. The main purpose of this is to help students to be organised and it enables parents to monitor this and communicate with the school. All students' homework tasks are also shown online using a system called Show My Homework.

We ask parents to encourage and support their child by:

- Checking that he/she is clear about the homework tasks set.
- Insisting that homework is completed to the best of the student's ability.
- Encouraging high standards.
- Testing work that has been set for learning.
- Listening to him/her reading what he/she has written.

Homework tasks will be set throughout their time at school to enhance their learning and to develop the good study skills and habits that are an essential part of taking examinations in Year 11 and beyond.



Learning Resource Centre

Individual study is encouraged for homework, coursework and revision. The Learning Resource Centre is a valuable area for research and quiet work for all students, with the help of a full-time Resource Centre Manager. This facility is available from 8.00am in the morning before school starts and is also available for students to use after school.

Extra Curricular Activities

Extra curricular provision is a strong feature of the academy. A wide range of opportunities in Music, Drama and Dance reflect our Performing Arts College status. Students take part in performances, local visits and world-wide tours, and can access our team of specialist peripatetic teachers. The PE Department run school teams in several sports and we have a record of success over many years. Inter-form and inter-house activities are enthusiastically pursued. A number of subjects including run after school clubs or extra help sessions. Our annual calendar lists many trips and visits which are organised to complement classroom activities and provide opportunities to widen students' experiences.

Information Technology

The academy has a number of suites of networked PCs with access to a wide range of applications, including the Internet. Students also have access to laptops and tablets in some other curriculum areas. The Learning Support Department has networked stations dedicated to those who need an individualised learning programme.

All Key Stage 3 students have a Computing lesson each week and many subjects use the facilities to deliver a variety of topics. Our website (www.theredhillacademy.org.uk) has a range of resources from different subject areas and general information about other aspects of learning.

Instrumental Music Tuition

As well as the timetabled Music lessons for all students at Key Stage 3 and for those who opt for the subject at Key Stages 4 - 5, there are weekly lessons in school for those students who have special talents and interests in woodwind, brass, string, keyboards and percussion instruments, as well as vocal lessons. These lessons are taught by our team of peripatetic music specialists. Parents are expected to contribute towards the cost of these extra lessons. The department has a small stock of instruments available for loan.

All students are required to have adequate insurance for musical instruments on school site, whether they are owned by school or the students themselves.

This encouragement of talented instrumentalists has benefits not only for the individuals but also for the Music Department, the school and the community.





Religion

The academy is not affiliated with a particular religious denomination. Religious teaching is based upon the Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education, and the school will make arrangements for parents to exercise their right of withdrawal of their children from religious worship or instruction.

Sex Education

The aim is to instil an awareness of factual information, personal responsibility, and sensitivity to the needs and values of other people.

Formal lessons are given in Science and Personal Development lessons, dealing early on with Growth and Adolescence, and Human Reproduction, and later with Family Planning. Issues and choices arising from sexual development and emotional involvement are examined. Questions and comments from students arise naturally and are answered or discussed frankly in the framework of guidelines from the Health Education Council. (Parents have the right to withdraw their child in particular circumstances). A copy of the school's Sex Education policy is available on request.

Special Educational Needs

At the Redhill Academy we value all students equally. We believe that all our students are entitled to a broad and balanced education. We recognise that some students will need additional and alternative support, guidance and encouragement in order to achieve their potential. In our work we have regard to the Children and Families Act 2014. A copy of the Redhill Academy's Special Educational Needs policy is available on request from the school.

The Post-16 Centre

The Redhill Post-16 Centre currently has approximately 250 students on roll and offers a wide range of post-16 courses. Students are able to choose three subjects to study at A-level (or equivalent) in Years 12 and 13. We have a dedicated team of tutors led by the Director of Post-16 who provide a very high standard of practical, day-to-day support and advice to their students. All students follow a full programme of Personal Social Health Education and Citizenship including sessions on time management, action planning, UCAS applications and financial advice.

Our modern Post-16 Centre provides the very best accommodation including classrooms, study rooms, dedicated computer facilities, social area and offices. Smaller specialist areas and seminar rooms spread throughout the school are also used to deliver our post-16 courses.

