



The Redhill Academy



Year 7 Student Curriculum Guide 2026

Welcome to The Redhill Academy and Year 7

We hope you are looking forward to joining the Redhill Academy in September as the class of 2025. We have lots of exciting things in store for you both in lessons and with our programme of after school activities. You have all worked really hard in Year 6 and will be looking forward to the summer holidays. It is important that you have a well-earned rest and come back refreshed and ready to go in September. However, the summer holidays are a long time and we think it is beneficial to keep thinking and learning new things. Therefore, we have produced this booklet to let you know what you will be studying in your first term in Year 7 and give you some suggestions for things to do over the summer. There are lots of ideas here so dip in and see where it takes you.

“Learning never exhausts the mind.” Leonardo da Vinci

Welcome to PE

This is the PE curriculum for the Autumn term:

Developing collaboration through netball or handball

Developing self-management through tag rugby

Developing evaluating skills through trampolining

Developing communication skills through outdoor adventure activities



Activities you could try:

- Take a family trip in the outdoors with a challenge to follow a map and work together to develop **collaboration** skills.
- Develop **innovation** by trying new sports and finding different solutions to challenges.
- Create a movement sequence at home where you **creatively** travel from one space to another.
- Play games with family and friends in the park and be **resilient** when or if lose.
- Try a new exercise activity which moves your body in an unfamiliar way and allows you to experience **body management**.
- **Play** some of the activities above if you have the opportunity.
- **Watch** live performances, TV, or YouTube clips of the sports above to get a sense of what these activities involve.
- **Research** the basic rules of the sports above.
- Practice **getting changed** into and out of your PE kit from your school uniform. You should aim to be able to do this in 5-minutes

Welcome to English

Head of Faculty: Miss Henesy

This is the curriculum for the upcoming Autumn Term:

Developing our understanding of the environment and how we can use our voice for change.



Studying *Plastics and Persuasion*

Assessment: Write a persuasive speech

Suggested reading:

- **Our planet-** the one place we call home- Matt Whyman and Richard Jone
 - **The Wild Before-** Piers Torday
 - **Greta's Story:** The schoolgirl who went on strike to save the planet
 - **Trash-** Andy Mulligan

Possible trips: Ready for when you study *Romeo and Juliet* after Christmas

Stratford-upon-Avon (Shakespeare's birthplace) and The Globe Theatre (London)
You can take a virtual tour of Shakespeare's Globe already:

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/discover/about-us/virtual-tour/>

Things to watch:

- **Blood, Sweat and T shirts**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xY614N8gEIY>

Writing skills for English

Brush up on the following:

Different sentence types (simple, compound, complex) and how to punctuate them accurately

How to use paragraphing correctly

Ambitious, varied language choices (you could aim to learn 3-5 new words by September!)

Figurative techniques (metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole)

Description using the five senses

Creative challenges:

During Year 7, you will do a unit called Plastics and Persuasion, in which you will learn about the damage plastic is doing to our environment. You will then learn how to create your own persuasive speech about this topic. In preparation, you could...

Look at **examples** of famous persuasive **speeches**.

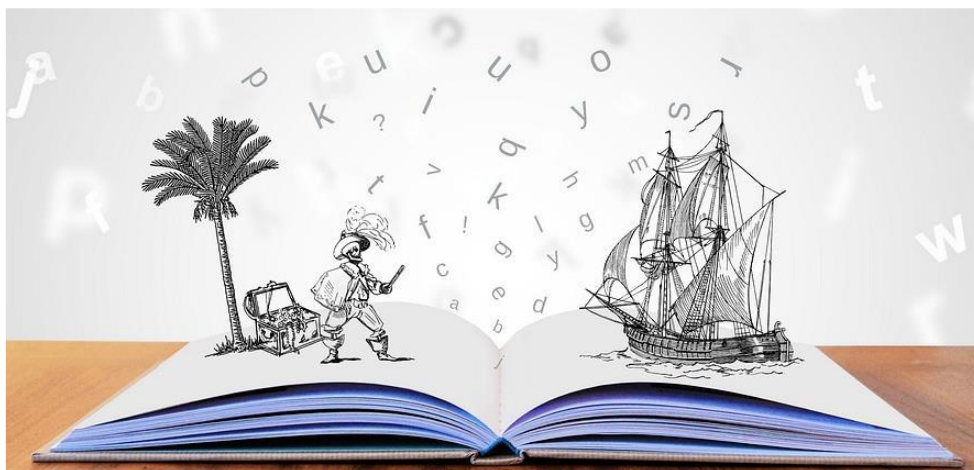
or

Create **fact file about plastics** which you could use when you start the unit.

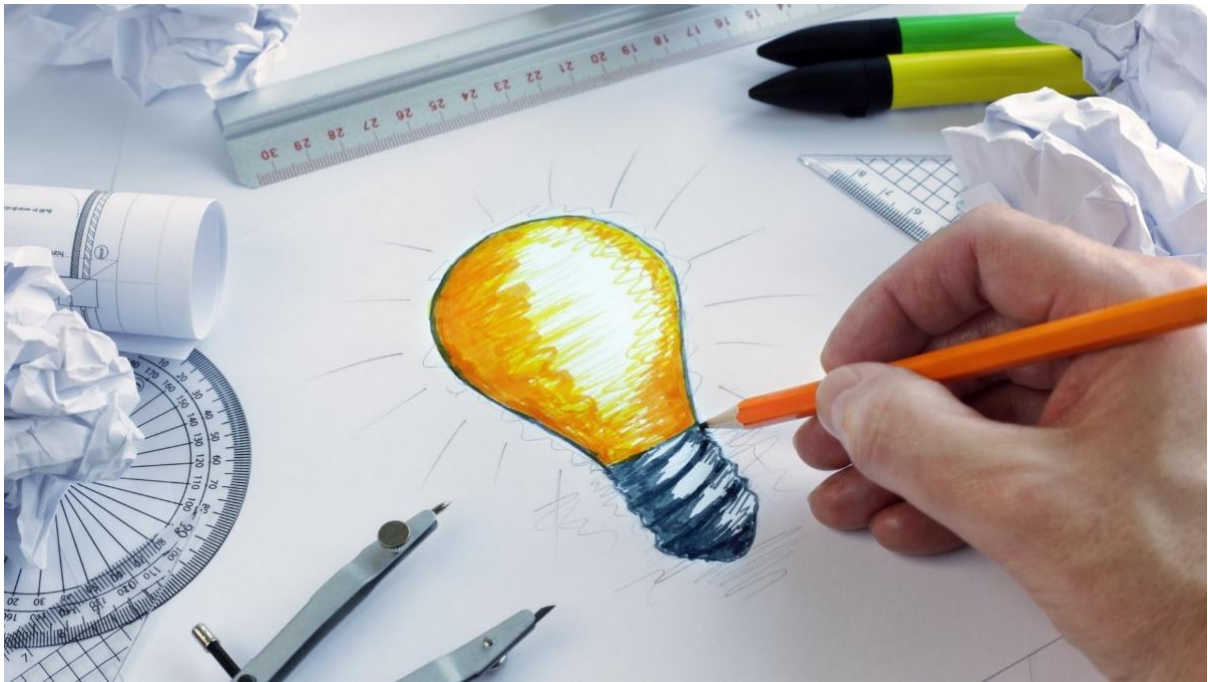
Other ideas for summer reading:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/g/great-books-guide-2019-children-10-to-11-years/>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-12-14/>



Welcome to Design and Technology



During the autumn term, you will take part in three separate subject areas with Design and Technology. Design and Technology (D&T), Design and Technology Textiles and Food Preparation and Nutrition.

Through theory lessons, demonstrations and project work you will obtain and develop the following skills;

- D&T: Workshop skills, working with metal, graphical drawing and design communication skills,
- D&T Textiles: Mastery of the sewing machine, how materials are made, decorative techniques using dye and pigment, and textiles construction skills.
- Food: Kitchen hygiene, food safety, equipment skills, and nutrition. There is also a little food science thrown in.

Over the summer we recommend you try and have a look at some of the things listed below.

Videos to watch:

- The Big Life Fix - episodes available on I-player
- How It's Made - episodes available of YouTube
- Jimmy's Food Factory - episodes available of YouTube
- Watch Junior MasterChef - episodes available on I-player

Activities and Creative Challenges:

- D&T Activities - www.technologystudent.com
- Engineering Challenges
- <https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.co.uk/resources/challenge-cards.html>
- Games and D&T related Activities - <https://www.mensaforkids.org/search-results/>

Free software downloads:

- Computer Aided Design (CAD) Software - <https://www.sketchup.com/plans-and-pricing/sketchup-free>
- Photo Editing and CAD - <https://www.photopea.com/>
- Games and D&T related Activities - <https://www.mensaforkids.org/search-results/>

3D CAD modelling software –Google Sketchup –tutorials available on YouTube

Welcome to Maths

This is the curriculum for the Autumn term:

→		
Introduction	Number work	Algebra
An opportunity for students to get their brains warmed up after the holidays and a chance to see some Maths they haven't done before.	Students will build on current knowledge of add, subtract, multiply and divide, alongside other elements of number and calculations	An opportunity to explore algebra, how and why we use it

Running alongside these topics will be problem solving activities designed to make you better able to tackle exam questions in the future.

Things you can do to prepare for September:

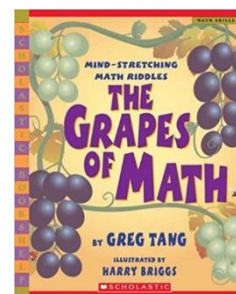
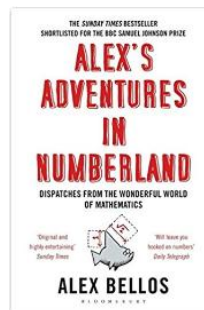
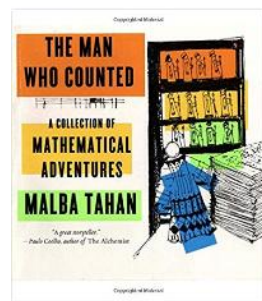
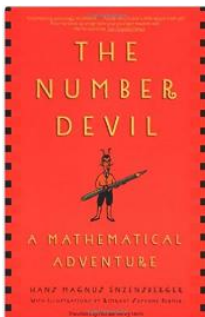
- **Equipment** – make sure you have a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and a scientific calculator ready (we recommend the Casio Classwiz [fx-83GT CW](#)).
- **Familiarise yourself with some of the early topics**
For example: recap knowledge from primary school on adding, subtracting, dividing and multiplying whole numbers and decimals. Make sure you can remember what multiples, factors and prime numbers are.
- **Try some problem solving tasks.** A good website for this is <https://nrich.maths.org>. The 'nrich' website will make different problems available each week. You can send in your solutions – they will publish the best ones on the website!



A screenshot of the NRich website. The top navigation bar includes 'Primary', 'Secondary', 'Early Years', 'Primary Teachers', and 'Secondary Teachers'. Below this is a 'Welcome to the home of rich mathematics' banner. Three main sections are visible: 'Teachers', 'Primary Pupils', and 'Secondary Students'. The 'Secondary Students' section is highlighted with a blue background and features a telescope image. A black arrow points from the 'Secondary Students' section in the screenshot to a larger, detailed view of the same section on the right. In the detailed view, the text 'See all problems Open for Solution' and 'See all Resources for ages 11-18' is circled in red.

Some interesting reading:

- The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure by Hans Magnus Enzensberger
- The Grapes of Math by Greg Tang
- The Man Who Counted - A Collection of Mathematical Adventures by Malba Tahan
- Alex's Adventures in Numberland by Alex Bellos



Flower Puzzle

$$\text{Red Flower} + \text{Red Flower} + \text{Red Flower} = 60$$

$$\text{Red Flower} + \text{Blue Flower} + \text{Blue Flower} = 30$$

$$\text{Blue Flower} - \text{Yellow Flower} = 3$$

$$\text{Yellow Flower} + \text{Red Flower} \times \text{Blue Flower} = ?$$

Welcome to History

Our curriculum for the Autumn term is focused on the Middle Ages:

- The events of 1066, including the Battle of Hastings
- The power of the medieval Church
- The power of medieval kings
- The Black Death 1348
- The Peasants' Revolt 1381
- Medieval migrants

In preparation, students could do the following to get a 'feel' for the Middle Ages:

Read an historical novel set in the Middle Ages.

- 'The village' by Eleanor Watkins
- 'Out of fire' by Millie Pearson
- 'Crusade in Jeans' by Thea Beckman
- 'Crispin: Cross of lead' by Avi
- 'A midwife's apprentice' by Theresa Tomlinson
- 'The book of the Lion' by Michael Cadman
- 'Longbow' by Wayne Grant
- 'A proud taste for Scarlet and Miniver' by E. Koningburg



Watch a film set in the Middle Ages

- 'A knight's tale' (2001)
- 'Robin Hood' (2010)

Visit a medieval building or site

- A medieval church/cathedral e.g. St Marys church in Arnold / Southwell Minster
- A medieval castle e.g. Warwick castle
- The site of a medieval battle e.g. Bosworth

Look at YouTube clips for 'Horrible Histories Middle Ages' for a humorous introduction to the medieval period

Welcome to Philosophy, Religion and Ethics

This is the curriculum for the Autumn term:

Philosophical questions about Old Testament stories

Suggested reading



- 'The Philosophy Files' by Stephen Law
- 'Children's Book of Philosophy: An Introduction to the World's Greatest Thinkers and their Big Ideas' by Sarah Tomley

Possible trips

- Local places of worship
- National Holocaust Centre

Some questions to think about

- What is the purpose of life?
- Why are we here?
- Are some things unforgivable?
- Can God exist despite suffering and evil in the world?

Online Census statistics about religion and belief

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/religion/bulletins/religionenglandandwales/census2021>

'A snapshot of religious affiliations throughout England and Wales in 2021. For the first time ever, less than half of the population described themselves as Christian (46.2%). Despite this, Christianity still remained the largest religion. There was also a rise in those who described themselves as 'Muslim' and 'Hindu'.'

Welcome to Geography

Welcome to Geography

This is the curriculum for the Autumn term:

What is a Geographer?

What do we know about places around the world?

How do we read maps?

How do we show height, scale and direction on a map?

Is the earth running out of natural resources?

Why is the environment important?

How can generate energy?

Things to do

Go for a walk and list all the things that you see and hear

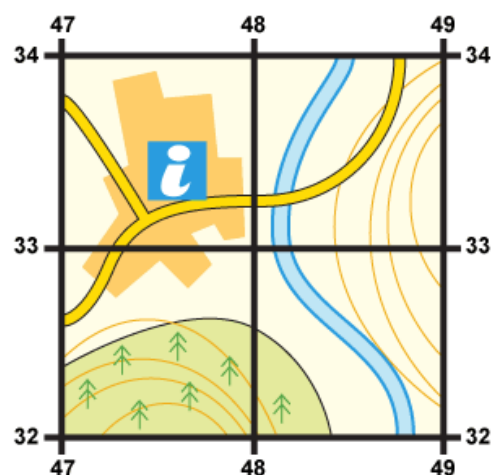
Read 'Where on Earth? Geography without the Boring Bits by James Doyle

Find on a map of the UK all the places that you have visited

Explore your family heritage and map where people have lived

Web pages

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/map-skills>



Welcome to Performing Arts

This is the curriculum for the Autumn term:

Music

Elements of music

In this unit you will learn about the elements of music through listening, performing and composing activities. You will regularly use your voice and instruments to recognise, identify and distinguish the elements of music. You will learn about the connections between sound and symbol in graphic scores and compose, perform, assess and evaluate a composition using graphic scores.



Pulsation

In this unit you will learn about the difference between pulse and rhythm. You will work in groups to create rhythmic compositions using body percussion and classroom percussion. You will learn how to follow pulse grids and will develop this further by learning how to read and write note values. You will use rhythm notation to perform, assess and evaluate your own composition.

Possible activities:

Create your own piece of music using any found sounds. These sounds are from the world around us. They can be anything - a ball hitting the floor, hitting a pan with a spoon, rustling some paper, a sweeping brush or a door opening and closing. Put your sounds together to create a piece of music.

Useful websites and books:

- www.musictheory.net
- http://www.musictheoryteacher.com/pb/wp_b4f39ca6/wp_b4f39ca6.html
- <http://www.teoria.com/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4lz0vpshsfVvDbD95F3v8xB/ten-pieces-resources>
- [The AB guide to music theory part 1 - Eric Taylor](#)

Trips:

Have a look to see “what’s on” at The Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham. Go and see an orchestra playing live or a live concert.

Art

- First project theme: observational drawing
- Pupils will learn the fundamentals of drawing. They will learn about pencils and pencil skills, scale and proportion and how to build up a drawing.
- They will work from observation drawing still life objects that are in front of them.
- Students will learn to refine and improve their work to achieve more desirable outcomes and improve attainment

We recommend pupils begin drawing objects that they have around the home. Spend some time looking at the object and drawings what they see. Drawing is the art of looking! Have fun with it.



Visits and activities

- We recommend families to visit the local galleries in Nottingham, we have so many to enjoy.
- Local Galleries: Nottingham Contemporary, Weekday Cross; New Art Exchange, Greory Boulevard; Lakeside Arts, University Park; Nottingham Castle, City Centre; Wollaton Hall, Wollaton Park; Rufford Park, Ollerton

Drama

This is the curriculum for the autumn term:

Exploring stories

This is an introduction to drama techniques through different stories. Techniques include: still image, thought tracking, flashback and narration.

Steven Berkoff & The Twits

We explore the story of *The Twits* by Roald Dahl in the style of theatre practitioner, Steven Berkoff. His techniques include body as prop, sound effects and exaggerated characterisation.

Possible activities

- Watch a play and/or write a review of one you have seen – this could be something you watch live at a theatre or online at home:

Nottingham Theatre Royal

<https://trch.co.uk/>

The Shows Must Go On!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdmPjhKMaXNNeCr1FjuMvag>



- Read or watch the book/play/film *Holes* by Louis Sachar, a play we explore later in Year 7
- Explore opportunities at local theatres to get involved:

Copper Studios

<https://www.copperstudios.co.uk/>

Nottingham Playhouse

<https://www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk/participation/younger-people/>

Flying High

<https://www.flying-high.org.uk/>

Dance

This is me!

This is an introduction to dance expectations, choreography and performance. Students will work both independently and collaboratively, getting to know each other and creating a short performance piece before watching and appreciating each others' work.

African Dance

Students learn some set dance actions in the style of African Dance. They develop the physical and technical elements required for African dance such as co-ordination, strength, stamina and timing. Students also use basic choreographic devices such as formations, levels and group relationships to make the dance their own.



Things to do

- Create something by yourself; it could be a dance or a play, a picture, a sculpture, a model etc. Show what you have made to someone and talk about it.
- Create something with someone else.
- Have a go at some 'Just Dance', there's a few Afro-Pop examples on YouTube such as Pata Pata, Dagomba and Papaoutai
- Read this article. It discusses some of the health benefits of dance - <http://www.onedanceuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Research-into-Dance-Improving-Health.pdf>



Welcome to Science!

This is the curriculum for the Autumn term:

Organisms part 1- Cells and movement

You will be exploring what happens within your cells, why we have so many different types of cells and how to use a microscope to look inside plant cells.



Matter part 1- Particles model

You will be developing your understanding of why solids, liquids and gases all have different properties, what happens when you heat different substances and why objects float and sink.

Throughout these modules you will be developing your working scientifically skills by planning, carrying out, concluding and evaluating a variety of exciting scientific investigations!

Things to see and do

- Become a cell explorer- travel through the cell and learn about the functions of the organelles on <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/cell-explorers/>
- Put your science skills to the test by completing virtual experiments to create a sustainable lab!
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znbx2v4/articles/zfxgbqt>
- Watch one of the short films on our 'YouTube Channel' (search for Mr Hewitt's Science Collection in the favourites section). Find your own favourite clip or TV programme and summarise that in an article.
- Track penguins on www.penguinwatch.org or even help find the next new antibiotic <https://bashthebug.net/>
- Make memories –take a picture of something AMAZING seen over the holiday. Bring it in to share. Why is it so amazing?
- Try carrying out your own investigations -go to <https://spark.iop.org/collections/marvin-and-milo#gref> and try out one (or all!) of the experiments.

Welcome to Modern Foreign Languages!



During the Autumn term of Year 7 you will learn:

Everyday classroom structures in French.

The French alphabet and phonics to help with spelling and pronunciation.

Key structures to introduce yourself and exchange pleasantries.

Strategies to develop your confidence in speaking French.

How to change adjectives to describe different objects.

How to use verbs and conjunctions to develop sentences.

Strategies to understand French texts.

French and Francophone culture.



Free apps or websites which may be of use in practising French vocabulary:



A useful website for practising French vocabulary:

A useful bilingual online dictionary:

www.wordreference.com



Watch a French film:

- Kirikou
- A Cat in Paris
- Little Nicolas
- Azur & Asmar: The Prince's Quest
- Astérix
- The Rabbi's Cat
- Au Revoir Les Enfants
- A Monster In Paris
- Tales Of The Night
- Ernest & Célestine
- The Big Bad Fox And Other Tales
- Mia And The White Lion
- The Little Prince
- My Life As A Courgette
- Belle And Sebastien

French Riddle

Can you solve this French riddle?

un chat

sans 'h'

devinez

ce que c'est

Un chat anglais



Translation of the riddle:

Un chat (a cat in French)
without an 'h'
guess
what it is
An English cat.

Welcome to Computer Science and Business

This is the curriculum for the Autumn term:

Web awareness

This unit of work will give you an understanding of the fundamentals of the World Wide Web. Through a series of lessons, you will learn how the Web works, how to be safe and responsible online, gain an understanding of ethical issues surrounding the use of the Web and look at security risks and how they can be prevented. The unit of work finishes with you creating an information leaflet to give to other students to warn them of the dangers of being online.

Possible trips:

- The National Museum of Computing - <http://www.tnmoc.org/>

Useful websites:

- Risks and implications of ICT - <https://www.bbc.com/education/topics/zh3c87h>
- ThinkUKnow - <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>
- BBC click - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry>

Try something

Start to look at using the Code Redhill we use language. Sign up programming using pace.



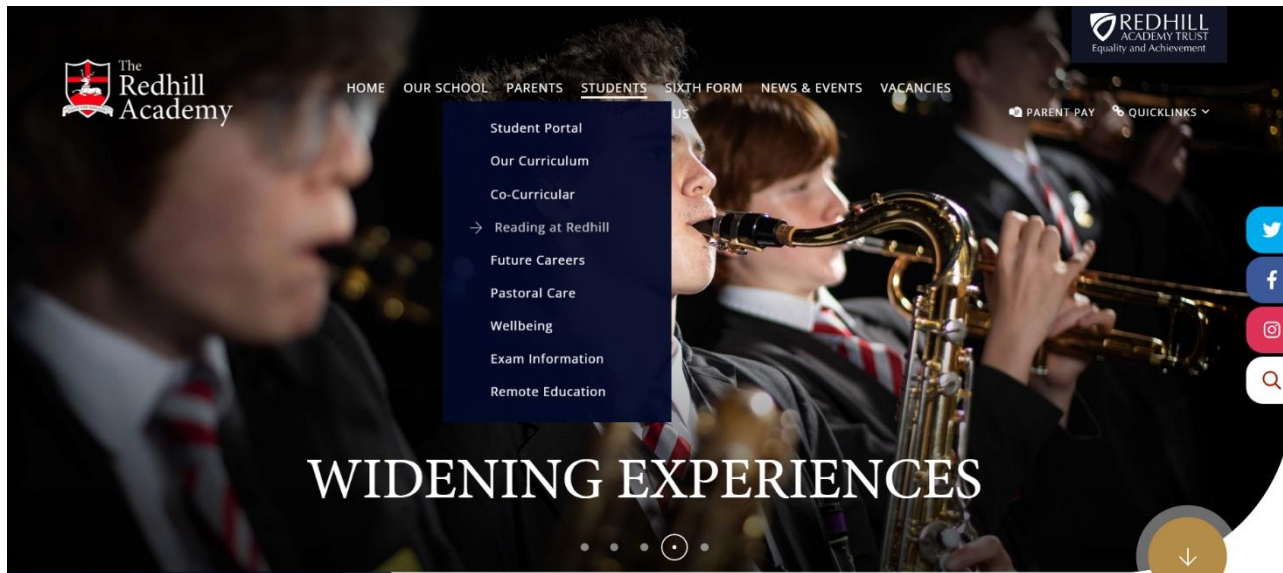
challenging:

Computer programming Academy website. At Python as our chosen and start to look at Python at your own

<https://www.codecademy.com/>

[Year 6: Recommended Summer reading](#)

Please visit the Redhill Academy website and click on the **Student tab** and then follow **'Reading at Redhill'** to discover our recommended reads.



NOTES

