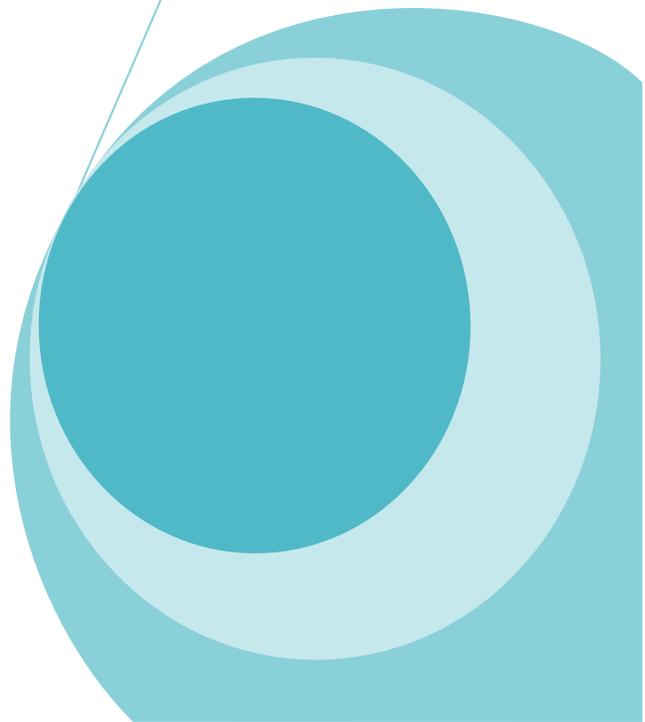




# Rye College: Curriculum

*"Creating Bright Futures for All"*

*March 2021*



## Introduction

Our curriculum offer is simple: broad and balanced with an academic core through which all students can study at least one arts qualification.

It combines a foundation in the national curriculum subjects, a focus on academic achievement in English, Mathematics and science with a broader offer of suitable academic, vocational or technical qualifications. In recent years, our students have found much success in the creative arts – and this is a commitment we see in our curriculum offer for the next academic year.

Our new curriculum pathways are designed to increase the number of students entered for English Baccalaureate subjects such as the three sciences, humanities and French as well as offering all students the opportunity to study a complementary subject – currently more often than not, in the arts.

Years 7 and 8 are focused on youngsters becoming ‘good learners across a range of subjects’ so that by the time we consider curriculum options in Years 9 and 10 students have a core body of knowledge and skills, an understanding of their qualification choices and are prepared for success in public exams at the end of Year 11.





## Rye College Curriculum (two week timetable of one hour lessons)

Periods	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
YEAR 7	Ma	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Hi	Hi	Hi	Gg	Gg	Gg	Ar	Ar	Ar	Mu	Dr	Da	L	L	L	T	T	T	T	LE	LE	PhE	PhE	PE	PE	PE												
YEAR 8	Ma	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Hi	Hi	Hi	Gg	Gg	Gg	Ar	Ar	Ar	Mu	Dr	Da	L	L	L	T	T	T	T	LE	LE	PhE	PhE	PE	PE	PE												
YEAR 9	Ma	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Hi	Hi	Hi	Gg	Gg	Gg	Ar	Ar	Ar	Mu	Dr	Da	L	L	L	T	T	T	T	LE	LE	PhE	PhE	PE	PE	PE												
Y9 Ad E/M	Ma	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Hi	Hi	Hi	Gg	Gg	Gg	Ar	Ar	Ar	Mu	Dr	Da	Ma	En	En	T	T	T	T	LE	LE	PhE	PhE	PE	PE	PE												
YEAR 10	Ma	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	HUMANITIES Choice	Choice 1			Choice 2			Choice 2			LE	LE	PhE	PhE	PE	PE	PE																				
YEAR 11	Ma	En	PhE	Sc	HUMANITIES Choice	Choice 1			Choice 2			Choice 2			Choice 3																																			

### LEGEND

<b>Ma</b>	Maths	<b>Hi</b>	History	<b>L</b>	French	<b>PE</b>	Physical Education
<b>En</b>	English	<b>Gg</b>	Geography	<b>T</b>	Design Technology	<b>PhE</b>	Philosophy and Ethics
<b>Sc</b>	Science	<b>Ar</b>	Art	<b>LE</b>	Life Education	<b>Mu</b>	Music
<b>Dr</b>	Drama	<b>Da</b>	Dance				

## Curriculum Entitlement for Key Stage Three at Rye College 2021/22

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students receive the following number lessons per fortnight.

Mathematics – 8 lessons	History – 3 lessons	Design Technology – 4 lessons
English – 8 lessons	Geography – 3 lessons	Art – 3 lessons
Science – 8 lessons	French <sup>1</sup> – 3 lessons	Performing Arts (Dance, Drama and Music) – 1 lesson each
Physical Education – 3 lessons	Life Education – 2 lessons	Philosophy and Ethics (inc. Religious Education) – 2 lessons

<sup>1</sup> For those Y9 student identified as requiring further progress in Mathematics and English, French is replaced with additional Mathematics and English.



## Curriculum Entitlement for Key Stage Four at Rye College 2021/22

The range of GCSE qualifications on offer to students in Years 10 and 11 reflects the interests and aspirations of the students.

Below is a list of the qualifications currently being studied by students at Rye College and the number of lessons allocated per fortnight.

2021-22 Key Stage 4 Compulsory	2021-22 Key Stage 4 Choices
All 6 lessons per fortnight / All GCSE unless named	
English Language and Literature 9 lessons	Triple Science - Biology, Chemistry and Physics (14 lessons in total)
Mathematics 8 Lessons	Geography
Double Award Science 8 Lessons	History
Physical Education (core) 3 lessons	French
Life Education 2 Lessons	Engineering Design (Cambridge National)
Philosophy and Ethics 2 Lessons	Fine Art
	Dance
	Drama
	Photography
	Music (Btec)
	Sports Science (OCR National Cambridge)
	Physical Education

## Meet Our Colleagues

### Curriculum Areas

#### The Basics

Subject	Representative
<b>English Language and English Literature</b>	Mrs. Chillingworth, Head of English
<b>Mathematics</b>	Mrs. Harrison, Head of Mathematics

#### English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

Subject	Representative
<b>Science</b>	Mr. Franks, Head of Science
<b>History</b>	Mrs. Richford, Curriculum Lead for History
<b>Geography</b>	Mrs. Willett, Curriculum Lead for Geography
<b>Modern Foreign Languages - French</b>	Miss Ruhla, Teacher



## Other Subjects

Subject	Representative
<b>Art</b>	Miss Halvey, Head of Art
<b>Dance</b>	Miss Daines, Teacher
<b>Design Technology</b>	Mr. Simmonds, Curriculum Lead for Engineering
<b>Drama</b>	Mrs. Wall, Teacher
<b>Engineering</b>	Mr. Simmonds, Curriculum Lead for Engineering
<b>Life Education</b>	Mrs. Starkey, Curriculum Lead
<b>Music</b>	Mrs. Evenden, Teacher
<b>Philosophy and Ethics</b>	Mrs. Richford, Curriculum Lead
<b>Physical Education</b>	Mr. Channer, Teacher
<b>Photography</b>	Miss Halvey, Head of Art



# The Rye College Curriculum

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## Your Core...

### Key Stage 3 English at Rye College

English is a vital subject at the heart of the curriculum, which teaches and develops so many essential skills. Our mission is to provide students with a wide range of engaging, inspiring and thought-provoking texts, both from Literary Heritage and contemporary authors, along with introducing and embedding the key skills they will need to be highly successful in their GCSEs. One of the ways we do this is to regularly assess students in reading, writing and speaking and listening against the GCSE assessment objectives. As reading will improve students' ability in all aspects of the subject, we strongly feel that reading for pleasure is something all students should be engaging in, so all KS3 students have one lesson a week in the Library, with their homework predominantly focused on reading for pleasure at home. We have an English specialist tutor, as well as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA), who are highly effective at providing intervention and support to students across both key stages, to ensure that all students have the best chance of excelling.

### GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

**Head of Subject:** Mrs. Chillingworth

**Awarding Body:** Eduqas

**Notes:** Students are expected to purchase the studied texts

The new English Language specification allows for the study of a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts spanning the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Students will be encouraged to make connections between their readings and analyse the writer's craft. Reading and writing will be equally weighted for final English Language qualifications, with speaking and listening remaining in the teaching programme. Students will develop skills to use more challenging writing skills, including narrating and persuading.

The new English Literature specification allows for a wealth of literature to be covered including: 19th century novel, a Shakespearean play, poetry from 1789 and British fiction or drama from 1914. Students will also be presented with an unseen text in the examination. The texts we are planning on covering include: 'Romeo and Juliet', 'An Inspector Calls', A Christmas Carol and a prescribed poetry anthology.



## Key Stage 3 Mathematics at Rye College

At Rye College, we want our students to become as passionate and enthusiastic about Mathematics as we are. We promote a positive learning culture within our classrooms where students feel safe to answer questions and make mistakes so that they can move forward and progress in Mathematics.

In Years 7 and 8, we ensure students secure their learning of number, and then introduce and develop new topics to build upon their skills to develop a strong understanding of Mathematics. In addition, we introduce students to a range of problem-solving strategies. We have a new cyclical curriculum to ensure that students repeat topics and therefore have greater retrieval skills. Each year the students will study a topic but in greater depth. This also ensures that more able students are challenged.

At Rye College, students in Years 9 to 11 complete a three-year GCSE course to ensure that students are ready and well prepared, not only for their Mathematics examination, but to be able to problem solve effectively and to use these skills in the real world. Mathematics features in every aspect of our lives and is such an important part of the world we live in. At GCSE, students study number, algebra, ratio and proportion, geometry and measures, probability and statistics.

We regularly track progress through termly assessments or end of topic tests and have implemented a gap analysis week after the assessments so that areas of weakness can be addressed.

All years are set into ability groups and students that struggle with Mathematics are further supported by two full time learning support assistants, one at higher level.

## GCSE Mathematics

**Head of Subject:** Mrs. Harrison

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

The new Mathematics content has been divided into six main domains: Number; Algebra; Ratio, Proportion and rates of change; Geometry and measures; Probability; and, Statistics.

All six areas are assessed via three external examinations. Examinations make up 100% of the assessment. Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment whereas a calculator is allowed for Papers 2 and 3. All papers are 90 minutes in duration and contribute equally to the overall grade. There are two tiers available: 'Foundation' tier, with Grades 1-5 available; and 'Higher' tier, with Grades 4-9 available. Students sit all three exams at the same tier. The College decides the tier of entry.

GCSE Mathematics is an important qualification for many courses and careers. Almost all jobs and careers require GCSE Mathematics, but the following are some that use Mathematics extensively: Economics, Medicine, Architecture, Engineering, Accountancy, Teaching, Psychology, Computing, Banking, Insurance, Marketing, Pharmacy, Science, Environmental Studies and Business Management.

The Maths Team run a revision club every week to help improve students' progress.



## Your Sciences...

### Key Stage 3 Science at Rye College

The Rye College Science faculty ethos is that learning should be student-led, active and contextualised. We explore how Science fits into our everyday lives and how it challenges our understanding so that students appreciate key scientific concepts and its relevance.

At Key Stage Three, students study a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Units cover a variety of topics including cells, interdependence, particles, energy and forces. Practical work is an important part of science teaching and is included in as many lessons as possible. Students are assessed at the end of each topic and receive feedback twice before each topic assessment.

### GCSE Combined Science

**Head of Subject:** Mr. Franks

**Awarding Body:** AQA

The combined sciences provide the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All students should learn essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They should gain appreciation of how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas that relate to the sciences and that are both inter-linked and of universal application.

GCSE Combined Science, a double award GCSE course, provides students the opportunity to investigate and understand these key ideas, incorporating learning from across each of the three sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). Students will get hands-on with a range of practical investigations, which are integrated into the course content, to create an interactive learning experience.



## GCSE Triple Science – GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry, and GCSE Physics

**Subject Teachers:** Mrs. Fountain, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Rickard

**Awarding Body:** AQA

*Students studying Triple Science will work towards three GCSE qualifications: one for each Science. This option is for students who are seriously considering the future study of science at A-level and university with a view to associated careers. Therefore, this course will only be offered to students who have consistently high-level outcomes during their Year 9 studies, across the three sciences and have a proven track record.*

Learning takes place in the laboratory with theoretical work being illustrated by practical activities. There are eight investigations for each subject area: students keep a practical log of their work and are assessed on their findings in the examinations.

The three subjects are studied separately and assessed through examinations.

### GCSE Biology

Students have the chance to gain a good understanding of human biology, organisms, evolution and the environment. The course will help put **Biology** in the context of students' everyday lives with topics ranging from 'keeping healthy' to 'humans and their environment'. The course is designed to help them understand how science can be used to explain the world in which they live and the impact of humans. Teachers are encouraged to develop students' practical skills with hands-on work which helps to engage and enthuse them. Students can see how science is used to solve problems ranging from cures for infectious diseases to creating bio fuels. It can open the doors to future careers in medicine and the life sciences.

### GCSE Chemistry

**Chemistry** gives students the opportunity to gain a good understanding of: the nature of substances and how they react together; how **Chemistry** is used in business and industry and how our use of raw materials in fuels and manufacturing can affect the global and local environment. The course is designed to help students understand how to formulate a scientific approach to understanding and explaining the world and solving problems. Many of the materials considered are substances that students will come across in their daily lives like drinking water, vegetable oils and metals. This helps engage students by putting their learning in context. Students are encouraged to develop practical skills with hands-on work which helps make the subject come alive in the classroom.

### GCSE Physics

**Physics** offers students the chance to gain a good understanding of: the use and transfer of energy waves; radiation and space; the application of Physics. Physics is designed to give students the tools and concepts they need to be able to construct a scientific approach to solving problems. Students will learn to ask and answer questions about the fundamental laws that govern natural phenomena. Students are likely to be engaged by the aspects of the specification that they can relate to their everyday life, such as the efficiency of electrical appliances and braking distances, as well as larger concepts like nuclear fission and fusion and evidence of the Big Bang.



## Your Humanities...

### Key Stage 3 History at Rye College

Knowing our past gives us the context that enables us to understand the world, its people and events in the present day. Through the study of significant people and events incorporated in our history curriculum, our students are provided with knowledge that they need to understand the vast and varied world around them in the present day. The curriculum is exciting, broad and balanced and follows a chronological study of both British and wider world events.

At Key Stage Three pupils explore 'What is History' before moving through the Medieval period to the Tudors. Following on from that, students journey through a study of the early modern period which includes the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the study of the British Empire and its legacy. Students then study of the Victorian period and the monumental events of the 20th century including WWI, WWII, a study of America and the Civil Rights movement.

Our curriculum at Key Stage Three is linked to Key Stage Four in terms of content and skills, giving the students a firm foundation that they can build upon at GCSE. The curriculum is accessible to all levels of learner and our programme of homework enables the students to discover more about the past in an independent forum. The study of history gives students the opportunity to develop their critical thinking skills through source investigations and the study of interpretations thus enhancing their life skills. Opportunities to develop debating skills, argumentative writing skills and presentation skills are embedded into the curriculum, which are skills that will be of great benefit to students through their entire life

### GCSE History

**Head of Subject:** Mrs. Richford

**Awarding Body:** AQA

During this course, students will expand their knowledge considerably of the wider world and of Britain. Students will develop the skills of explanation and interpretation and will develop how to make judgments that are rooted in evidence. Students will look at a range of key historical themes, contexts, focusing on different views of history and different representations of the past.

GCSE History is made up of four topics. There are two exams with two topics in each exam. The topics are equally weighted: meaning they are all worth 25% of the course.

#### Paper 1 – Understanding the Modern World

1. Germany – Democracy to Dictatorship 1890 – 1945: This will cover what Germany was like before WWI, through to the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party.
2. Conflict and Tension -- The First World War 1894 -- 1918: Linking to the Unit on Germany, we explore in detail the family tensions within the ruling houses of Europe and how this exploded into war. Through examining key events of the War, on multiple fronts, students can judge the turning points which finally made the German defeat inevitable and the eventual ending to the war.

#### Paper 2 – Shaping the Nation



1. Britain – *Health and the People* – this takes students from Medieval Britain through to present day thus giving students an insight into life in Britain during The Medieval Period, The Renaissance, Early Modern Times, The Industrial Revolution and into the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.
2. *Norman England* – this topic looks at the significant events of 1066 and the extent of the changes that the Norman Conquest had on Anglo-Saxon England. A deep insight into medieval life will be gained through this unit.

## Key Stage 3 Geography at Rye College

As Michael Palin stated, “Without Geography – you are knowhere!” Knowing where we are, and how we fit into this world, helps us to see how we can progress globally into a new transnational world. Through a study of the world around us, the Geography curriculum helps to ground students in their culture and place in the world. Through the studies of other countries and the comparisons made, we can better understand our own situations.

At Key Stage Three students develop the skills of a geographer: from map work to location finding before moving through a series of Human and Physical geography units. Students will explore the world around them, both through local geographical examples and by studies of other countries from every continent. Within the course, students’ debating and decision-making skills are tested, so that topical events can be explored and discussed from a range of angles. All the topics and skills feed into the GCSE course framework, so that students have already created the foundations of skills and knowledge needed to excel in their upper school courses.

Lessons are tailored to all levels and styles of learning, to ensure that all can access and enjoy the lessons, whilst challenging students to develop independent thinking skills which benefit them across the curriculum. “Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future... Geography prepares for the world of work – geographers, with their skills of analysis are highly employable.”

## GCSE Geography

**Curriculum Leader:** Mrs. Willett

**Awarding Body:** AQA

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. The GCSE course is a good mix of topics such as urban issues, world development, extreme environments, rivers and hazards – to name but a few. The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions that affect our world, and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

The GCSE is examined over 3 papers:

### Paper 1 – Living with the Physical Environment

This exam is 1hour 30 minutes long and examines you on your knowledge and understanding of 3 areas:

- The Challenge of Natural Hazards (Earthquakes, Tropical Storms, Climate change and extreme weather events)
- The Living world (Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests and extreme cold environments)
- Physical Landscapes in the UK (Coastal and River processes and landforms)

The exam consists of a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and some extended writing.

### Paper 2 – Challenges in the Human Environment



This exam is 1 hour 30 minutes long and examines you on your knowledge and understanding of 3 areas:

- Urban Issues and Challenges (Mega cities, Population growth in poor and Rich Cities, Sustainable cities)
- The Changing Economic World (Development in Nigeria and the UK)
- The Challenge of Resource Management. (The challenge of providing food, water and energy for an ever-increasing population)

The exam consists of a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and some extended writing.

### **Paper 3 – Geographical Applications**

This exam is 1 hour and 15 minutes long and examines you on your evaluation and fieldwork skills.

- Issue Evaluation (You will have to make a decision on a topical issue near to the exam, e.g. should roads be built through the Amazon Rainforest?)
- Fieldwork (You will answer generic fieldwork questions and specific questions about fieldwork that you have carried out as part of your studies.

There has never been a better time to study Geography. It is a subject which is both directly relevant to your everyday life, whether in relation to travel, sustainability or lifestyle and to further study at college or university.

## **Key Stage 3 French at Rye College**

A foreign language is an excellent skill to develop and is the sign of someone with clear thinking skills and communication skills. Foreign language qualifications can lead to many areas of work, or can be a passport to a higher stage in many careers. Foreign language graduates are, in fact, among the highest paid professionals according to a recent survey. You will also develop an understanding of other countries and other cultures.

At Rye College, students develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills in French through a structured approach. Starting with basic introduction, students build towards conversational French so that they can holiday in France with confidence! Alongside developing students' linguistic skills, we look at French life and culture. This includes introduction to French literary heritage through the study of short extracts and poems.

For all years, homework is set on Classcharts and students are expected to spend time learning vocabulary and structures covered in class. There are vocabulary tests and end of unit tests as appropriate.

## **GCSE French**

**Subject Teacher:** Ms. Ruhla

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

Study languages and have a passport to the world! The study of languages develops confidence, curiosity, communicative skills as well as a wealth of cultural capital. All specific language skills are developed through a range of interesting and stimulating themes. The transferable skills from learning French are invaluable.

The Edexcel GCSE in French consists of four papers. Listening, speaking, reading and writing are all



equally weighted at 25% for each skill area.

During the two-year course students will complete the following components:

**Year 10:**

- Identity and Culture (myself, daily and cultural life).
- Local area, holiday and travel (holiday preferences, travel and tourist transactions, town, region and country).
- School (what school is like, school activities/ trips).

**Year 11:**

- Future aspirations, study and work, (languages beyond the classroom, ambitions, work and careers).
- International global dimension (bringing the world together through sports, music, campaigns, good causes, environmental issues).

All the above topics have extensive sub-topics and will be examined at regular intervals across all four modern foreign language skills over the two years including specific revision sessions at the end of Year 11.



## Your Arts...

### Key Stage Three Arts at Rye College

At Rye College, we believe that creativity is key to a student's education and personal development. The Arts are the intrinsic language of humanity and have helped us to express ourselves, explore the world around us and come together as a community for millennia. In Key Stage Three Art at Rye College, we support our students to become confident, independent thinkers, with open minds and open hearts. Students study a wide range of Art and Artists – we look at many different artists, from Henri Matisse and Vincent Van Gogh to Frida Kahlo and Georgia O'Keeffe. We also look globally at other cultures and how different society's beliefs and structures create different artworks.

Students work in a range of media to develop a multitude of different technical skills, such as drawing, painting, 3D work, ceramics, textiles, collage and printing. Our curriculum is designed to be engaging, exciting, challenging and thought provoking as we are committed to ensuring that student's develop their social and personal skills as well as their creativity and Art skills in our lessons. Our Art lessons in Key Stage Three prepare students for studying Fine Art, Textiles, Graphic Communications and/or Photography at GCSE.

### GCSE (Fine) Art

**Head of Subject:** Miss Halvey

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

Fine Art is a highly practical course that allows students to develop and explore their own ideas and personal themes. We are exceptionally proud about the resources and facilities that we offer at Rye College which allow students to experiment with and refine their skills is a huge array of materials. Students will explore painting, drawing, printmaking, textiles, ceramics, sculpture, mixed media, found objects, spray painting and more! Art is a highly conceptual and contextual subject and students will explore a range of topics including 'Image and Identity' and 'Who Are You?', as well as personal themes set by the student in response to given broad titles such as 'Fragments' and 'Beginning and/or End'.

Studying Art allows students to explore who they are and different ways in which they can express their identity. Taking GCSE Art encourages students to develop their creativity, independence, confidence and self-belief. Students develop skills in team work, problem solving, resilience, resourcefulness, communication and critical thinking. We expose students to a huge array of artists and cultures; encourage students to develop an open mind and an understanding of different people from a multitude of times, places and backgrounds. Art helps students to develop as people as well as practitioners, and our range of study includes mental health, religion, social media, gender, sex, politics, current affairs, history, philosophy, race, anatomy and more!

Fine Art requires a lot of extra study, homework is set every week and students are expected to independently manage their workload. The Art Room is open at lunchtimes and afterschool for students to access our resources and they can book in extra sessions with the Art Team when they require additional support with techniques, written work or idea development.

The course structure is as follows:

- Component 1 - Personal Portfolio 60%
- Component 2 - Externally Set Assignment 40%



During the course, students will have many extra-curricular opportunities such as trips to London galleries to gather primary research, life drawing classes, carnival makes, teaching primary school children and working with the local community.

## GCSE Photography

**Subject Teacher:** Miss Halvey

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

Photography is a subject that focuses on lens-based image making. Photography may be defined as the creative journey through the process of lens- and light-based media. This could include work created using film, video, digital imaging or light sensitive materials. With the developments of new affordable lens-based technologies, students should attempt to use the photographic mediums to explore and create a body of work, which develops and refines both the process and the concept. Students will also understand that Photography practitioners may work to client commissions within a commercial photography studio, or work as freelance photographers. They will need photo manipulation and graphic design skills, and good communication skills in-order-to liaise with clients and to promote themselves as photographers.

Students build their visual recording skills through a range of projects, which focus on a variety of photographic disciplines including both digital and film photography and experimental darkroom techniques.

Students complete projects based around themes set by their class teacher, these currently include a surrealist project, cubist project then a darkroom project.

## Key Stage Three Drama at Rye College

At Rye College, students study drama and learn how to create, perform and evaluate plays and performances. The drama course provides students with the opportunity to explore issues and ideas, understand plays, improvise, rehearse and present work to others. The study of drama develops confidence, creativity, collaborative and communication skills. Drama students gain the skills of problem solving, flexibility, empathy and risk-taking, all of which are recognised as vital in the workplace and throughout adult life.

## GCSE Drama

**Subject Teacher:** Mrs. Wall

**Awarding Body:** AQA

Drama offers students the opportunity to combine practical application of skills with the written examination of knowledge and understanding. The course involves the study of a set play which is assessed by a written examination. To prepare for this and gain knowledge and understanding of the play, lessons will consist of practical exploration, as well as written analysis. Students also learn about the work of live theatre makers.

The second component of the course involves students working in groups to devise and present their own original performance. This is filmed and sent to the exam board along with a reflective coursework essay which is an analysis and evaluation of the process. The final aspect of the course



involves a performance of a script to a visiting examiner through which a candidate's acting skills are assessed. All lessons are preparation for these assessments and, therefore, involve a combination of creating, performing and writing.

The study of drama develops confidence, creativity, collaborative and communication skills. Drama students gain the skills of problem solving, flexibility, empathy and risk-taking, all of which are recognised as vital in the workplace and throughout adult life.

## Key Stage Three Music at Rye College

Music at Key Stage Three is fully inclusive. We believe that everyone is a musician - as the Arts are the universal language of mankind. Therefore, students learn how to play, sing, perform, compose and analyse a wealth of music across a broad spectrum of genres/styles from around the world. The music curriculum at Rye College follows exciting schemes of work that inspire creativity and develop confidence and interpersonal skills. Students explore and use a range of instruments, as well as play in bands, compose using professional music technology software, understand musical notation and develop a deepening understanding of the importance and impact of music historically and in the contemporary age.

Further development of musicality is supported through extra-curricular activities, from vocal ensembles to drumming workshops and a school contemporary orchestra, to name a few. Exciting Christmas and summer concerts showcase individual talents. We believe in the power of music and developing students' skills in the subject, whilst always making sure that it is practical, academic, creative and fun!

## BTEC Music

**Subject Teacher:** Mrs. Evenden

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

BTEC Music is an absorbing, interesting, highly challenging and fun course. It is essential that students reach a reasonable standard on their chosen instrument, or be confident singers, before starting the course. If students are unsure if they meet the requirements of this BTEC, they should discuss with the Music department before making their choices. Students interested in music technology and software are encouraged to study music, as they can use computer software as a form of performance. Instrumental lessons are highly encouraged and are available in school, if requested.

### Course Outline:

#### Unit 1: The Music Industry:

In this unit, students will learn the basics of the music industry and why it is important. Students will learn how the different parts within it work and how this can prepare learners for a possible career in music. This unit is worth 25% of the final assessment grade and is assessed in a written examination.

#### Unit 2: Making a Music Product

Group work preparing to make a CD or concert. Students' practical work will be represented here



and they will have a chance to make links with the music industry from a real life perspective. This unit is assessed through a coursework portfolio that will include recordings and is worth 25%.

### **Two other units:**

Two additional units are required: Introducing Live Sound, Introducing Music, Introducing Music Performance, Introducing Music Recording, Introducing Music Sequencing, Introducing Choral Studies, Introducing Music Theory. These options will be agreed with your teacher depending on your skills. These units are assessed through a coursework portfolio that will include recordings are worth 25% combined.

## **Key Stage Three Design Technology at Rye College**

Design Technology at Rye College incorporates the following areas: Design Technology, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and Food Technology.

Students learn about the design and making process used to understand how we use design to solve everyday problems and create exciting ideas. Students learn a wide range of hand making and computer skills which will allow them to make a variety of products and software programs. Areas of focus include: planning for manufacture and designing to meet customer needs as well as a client's brief. Students build upon skills learnt throughout the Key Stage to understand materials and their properties. Selecting the correct materials and using adequate process are vital when designing a new product.

Using our design skills, we answer the design brief to make sure that we only use appropriate resources, creating a product that is not only appealing to our target audience and has as little impact on our environment as possible. Looking at the six Rs (reduce, re-use, recycle, rethink, refuse, and repair) and sustainability, we explore the world of manufacturing and production methods used in the workshop and in industry.

Students are taught the importance of safe and responsible use of internet and mobile digital devices. Through Design Technology lessons, Assemblies, tutor periods and all curriculum areas, E-Safety is reinforced so that students are aware of and can manage the risks of using the internet.

Everybody needs to be able to cook! In Food lessons, students learn about nutrition and healthy eating, cooking dishes including stir fry, bread, pasta, pizza, biscuits, risotto, chili, pastries and healthy snack bars. Students also learn to be safe and hygienic in the kitchen. Students develop the skills to cook and produce food for themselves and their families.

In addition, students learn about staple foods and the main food groups. Students are equipped to make better choices about their diets and healthy life-styles.

This three-year course is designed to dovetail into the GCSE in Engineering reflecting the assessment criteria and focus areas the qualification develops.



## Engineering Design Cambridge National

**Head of Subject:** Mr. Simmonds

**Awarding Body:** OCR

The OCR Cambridge Nationals in Engineering Design qualification is aimed at learners aged 14 – 16 who are interested in, and want a good introduction into, the world of engineering design – whether it be as a springboard into an apprenticeship or a route to further study in the many and diverse engineering fields: Product Design, Mechanical, Civil and Aeronautical. There are four units of study, each with its own assessment:

### **Unit R105 – Understanding Design**

In this unit, students will investigate the critical factors when designing products – what clients require and how these products could be manufactured in industry.

### **Unit R106 – Product Analysis and Research**

In this unit, students will:

- Disassemble engineered products;
- Examine how they work, investigating, where necessary, any relevant scientific principles (for example, a pump functions because it is engineered to create a pressure difference).

### **Unit R107 – Developing and Presenting Engineering Designs**

In this unit, students will learn the design skills needed to effectively present, and understand, a broad range of communication skills:

- Computer Aided Design (SketchUp, 2D Design, TinkerCAD);
- Technical Drawing (TD) and Sketching;
- Representing test results and data graphically for presentations;
- Storyboarding techniques for presentations.

### **Unit R108 – Design Realisation (Making Engineered Products)**

Interpret technical drawings (for example, an orthographic or oblique projection) and make a series of models, based on both these and students' own designs, using an appropriate selection from a variety of materials:

- Engineer's modelling foam and foam board;
- Wood;
- Metal (ferrous and non-ferrous);
- Plastic.



## Key Stage Three Dance at Rye College

Dance at Rye College, allows students to develop their confidence, creativity and team working skills. We are dedicated to promoting a vibrant, supportive learning environment where all students feel they can succeed. The Key Stage Three curriculum is built to be challenging both mentally and physically in-order-to encourage students to become thinking dancers. We aim to develop physical, expressive and technical dance skills through an endless variety of engaging activities.

We teach imaginative units of work that include world dance, capoeira and themes that focus on professional dance works such as 'The Car Man' by Matthew Bourne. Units are designed to allow progression each term, and it is a fantastic platform for students wishing to take Dance further into GCSE.

## GCSE Dance

**Subject Teacher:** Miss Daines

**Awarding Body:** AQA

Our school strongly supports and believes in the arts for the multitude of lifelong creative and expressive skills it provides for our students. So many of our students have been inspired by dance and this has led a great development in their confidence, problem solving and creative thinking.

GCSE dance at Rye College continues to support the bright futures of many hard-working young dancers. Dance students will strengthen their physical and expressive skills through three areas of assessment that include performance, choreography and critical appreciation of dance. During the two-year course, students will develop skills in a range of dance styles, with a strong focus on contemporary dance. Students will develop their skills in choreography and will have the opportunity to showcase their work in performances.

Students will be studying six professional dance works, allowing students to develop their critical appreciation of dance as an art and an academic subject. We do all that we can in-order-to provide the most exciting, creative and educational opportunities for our dancers. This includes workshops with outside companies, community performances and visits to see live professional works. Studying GCSE Dance opens a vast range of pathways for pursuing the performing arts.

## Key Stage Three Physical Education at Rye College

Rye College is dedicated to promoting both the mental and physical growth of all our students. Through participation, enjoyment and enrichment, students are encouraged to become confident in their abilities, lead healthy lives, and work within communities.

All of us may not reach elite levels of skill, but there is a world of enjoyment, intrinsic and social satisfaction, available to everyone who can dip their toes into a life-long commitment to activity, learning, or just being happy with themselves. Students, throughout Key Stage Three, are given opportunities to participate and develop skills in a wide range of sports and physical activities. Students are given opportunities to reflect on their and others' performances and find ways to improve them. At the same time, they will learn how a healthy lifestyle can enrich their whole lives.

## Sports Science: OCR Cambridge National

**Subject Teacher:** Mr. Channer



**Awarding Body: OCR Cambridge National in Sports Science**

The Cambridge National in Sports Science offers learners the opportunity to study key areas of sports science including anatomy and physiology linked to fitness, health, injury and performance. Students will develop their understanding of the science of training, and application of training principles and psychology in sport and performance. The qualification helps students appreciate how sport science underpins all sports at all levels. The course offers a strong route into level 3 qualifications and employment in the leisure, personal training and sport industries.

The course is made up of 4 units:

**Unit 1: Reducing the risk of injuries (assessed via a 60 minutes examination – 25%)**

By completing this unit, learners will gain a strong foundation of knowledge in formal first aid training by understanding how to: prepare participants to take part in physical activity in a way that minimises the risk of injuries occurring; react to common injury that can occur during sport; and, recognise the symptoms of some common medical conditions.

**Unit 2: Applying principles of training (Coursework module – 25%)**

By completing this unit, learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the principles and methods of training. They will then apply these in designing training programmes along with practical skills in fitness testing.

**Unit 3: The body's response to physical activity (Coursework module – 25%)**

By completing this unit, learners will understand key aspects of the structure and function of the musculoskeletal and cardio respiratory system. They will investigate some of the changes which occur to them in response to short and long term physical activity.

**Unit 4: Sports Science unit – Technology in sport (Coursework module – 25%)**

In this unit, learners will consider the variety of ways in which technology is being used in sport to enhance both performance and the experience of sport for performers and for spectators. They will also develop an appreciation of some of the contentious issues surrounding the increasing use of technology in sport.

## **GCSE Physical Education**

**Subject Teacher: Mr. Channer**

**Awarding Body: AQA**

This course provides a solid foundation for students planning to further study Physical Education or pursue careers in the sporting and fitness industry. The course has large theory content and practical assessments are robust. Consequently, those students who are academically able are not guaranteed high outcomes. Students will develop their knowledge and practical skills in a range of physical activities by examining the effects of exercise and training on performance. Students will develop an understanding of the importance healthy lifestyles and participation. The course is assessed through two terminal examinations on human body and influences in sport. In addition, there are three practical assessments with a coursework element.



## Key Stage Three and Four Life Education at Rye College

Life Education incorporates the Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) and Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curricula.

Our Life Education curriculum is in line with requirements outlined by the PSHE association to cover three areas: Health and Wellbeing; Living in the Wider world; and Relationships. The aim of the curriculum is for students to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy, safe and prepared for life and work. The knowledge developed through Life Education is fundamental to students being happy, successful and productive members of society. Central to this is students' ability to believe that they can achieve goals, both academic and personal; to stick to tasks that will help them achieve those goals, even when the reward may be distant or uncertain; and to recover from knocks and challenging periods in their lives.

Within the PSHE curriculum sits the statutory and recommended education for young people that does not ordinarily get taught in other curriculum subjects. This includes topics such as Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG), personal and financial well-being, mental health, internet safety, drugs, tobacco and alcohol education, Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE), PREVENT strategy, bullying and current affairs.

The teaching of RSHE became statutory in September 2020. The purpose of RSHE is to help students to develop the vital skills to make informed decisions about their sexual health, wellbeing, self-esteem and relationships. It can also help to build resilience and gain an understanding of when and how to ask for support.

Life Education is taught in one lesson per week in both Key Stage 3 and 4. The content is taught as spiral curriculum where topics are repeated yearly so that knowledge can be developed, and concepts addressed at age-appropriate levels. This is supplemented by assemblies, our Tutor programme and bespoke events. Lessons are largely discussion based, where students are encouraged to share their own and listen to others' views and beliefs in a safe, mutually respecting environment. Further details can be found in the PSHE policy.

## Key Stage Three and Four Philosophy and Ethics at Rye College

A central concern of the Philosophy and Ethics curriculum is the promotion of each student's self-worth, enabling them to reflect on their uniqueness as human beings, to share their feelings and emotions with others and appreciate the importance of forming and maintaining positive relationships. It enables students to explore powerful questions of meaning and significant ethical issues. It challenges students to reflect on, interpret and evaluate important issues of truth and belief and to communicate their responses in lively, varied ways.

Our Religious Education curriculum is in line with the East Sussex Locally Agreed Syllabus which states that the aim of religious education is "to give children and young people opportunities to explore the spiritual dimension of human experience and fundamental questions of human life, relating these to the beliefs, values and practices of believers and others and to their own developing beliefs and values."

Across the curriculum, students will tackle age related subjects and are encouraged to share their own opinions, and listen to others' views and beliefs in a safe, mutually respecting environment. A significant part of the subject is around critical thinking skills and being able to articulate your point



of view with justifiable reasoning for it. We will look at examples so that our students are able to decide for themselves what they believe and why they think that way on a variety of topics.