



The Ripley Academy

Achieving Excellence
Together



“I am delighted to welcome you to The Ripley Academy where our goal is to provide the best possible education for all of our students in a learning community to be proud of.”

Lisa Walton
Executive Headteacher



With a brand new sports hall, first rate teaching facilities and an ever-expanding sixth form, The Ripley Academy provides an excellent education for students of all abilities in a caring and disciplined environment.

The Ripley Academy has high expectations both of its staff in terms of the quality of teaching, guidance and support and of our students in terms of their behaviour, attitude and learning. As a school we are highly aspirational with a core set of traditional academic values, a firm but fair behaviour code and high standards in terms of pupil effort, punctuality and uniform. Our commitment to parents is that, whatever the ability of your child, we aim to fully realise their true potential and ensure that they are successful in moving on to the next stage of their lives be it in finding employment, securing an apprenticeship or going on to study at University.



Jan de Rijk
Head of School



“The Ripley Academy is a vibrant and successful school, serving Ripley and the surrounding areas. We are proud of our students and the exceptional care and support provided by our hard-working and dedicated staff.”

Excellence

We offer a range of learning pathways in both academic and vocational courses to ensure we cater for the needs of all our students. We are committed to supporting students' aspirations and building on their achievements. We wish to see our students developing self-confidence, initiative and resilience as well as care and concern for others. Our school has the following core beliefs and values, which are critical in developing our students into the well-rounded and successful adults they can be.

They are:

- Outcomes; the highest possible standards in all that staff and students do.
- Precious lesson time; students making the most of every minute of every lesson.
- Developing a thirst for learning
- Showing each other respect and developing pride in our learning.
- Providing a caring and welcoming learning environment.



Curriculum

All staff at The Ripley Academy have high expectations which challenge students. We aim to develop our students as independent learners who have the skills to succeed in the adult world.

The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that motivates and challenges students of all abilities.

In Key Stage 3

all students study the school's core curriculum which consists of:

English
Mathematics
Science
Spanish
Music
Drama
Geography
History
Religious Education
Technology
Art
Computing
Physical Education
Personal, Social
& Health Education

In Key Stage 4

all students study the school's core curriculum which consists of:

English
(Language and Literature as separate GCSEs)
Mathematics
Science
(a range of courses is available, including triple award and double award dependent on interest and aptitude)
Physical Education
(as a non-examination subject)
Personal Social
& Health Education

Students are then able to choose up to four more courses from a broad range of academic GCSEs and vocational BTECs.



“There is no limit to learning potential and we have high expectations of our students. Enthusiastic and dynamic staff are continually developing their craft to ensure that learning is exciting and engaging. We invest in well-qualified support staff who work with our students to provide additional support where needed. The school environment is attractive, spacious and well-resourced.”



“Our school community of teachers, support staff, parents, carers and students is a secure and effective partnership. As a school we are determined to work with families to provide for the wide-ranging needs of all our students, both pastoral and academic. We are proud that care and support are at the centre of all that we do.”



Care and Pastoral Support

All students at The Ripley Academy join a vertical tutor group made up of students from each and every year group. Each tutor group belongs to one of the school's four houses; Dove, Kinder, Monsal and Riber, each with its own distinct ethos based on the school's vision of shared pride and positive professionalism. Form tutors are responsible for the care, guidance and support of their tutees and our four Heads of House have overall responsibility for their pupils' pastoral care and academic progress.

The Ripley Academy places great importance on good communication between school and parents. As well as weekly clinics where appointments can be made with the Head of School to discuss school-related matters, there are regular Parent Information and Consultation evenings. The school also operates its own online homework system where parents can monitor homework set.

The Ripley Academy now communicates with parents primarily via email. The school also operates its own system for reviewing student progress and parents will be contacted if it is felt there is cause for concern. The school will send home either 4 or 5 reports per year, dependent on year group, informing parents of their child's progress towards their target grades.

Parents are elected to the Governing Body and play an active role in the governance of the school.

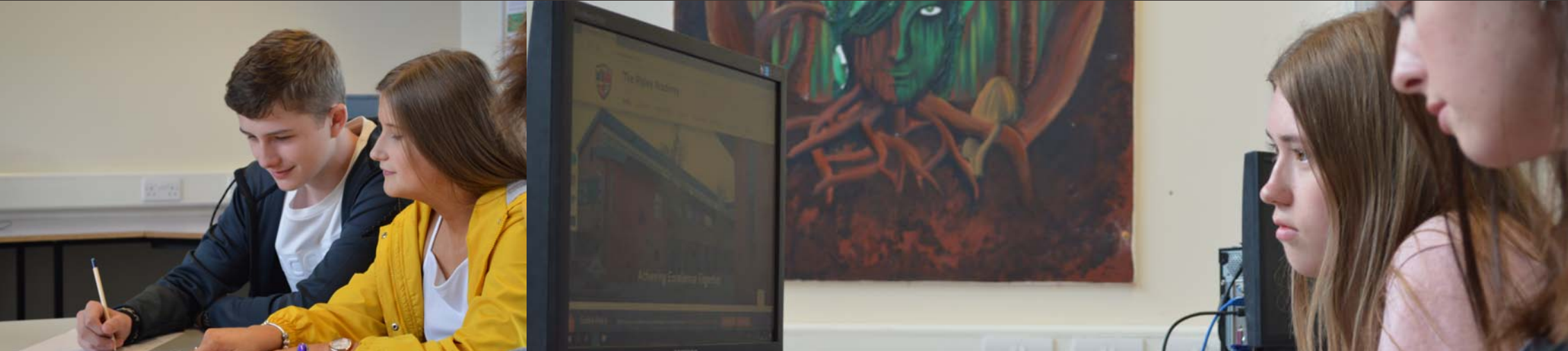


Our Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at The Ripley Academy offers a unique combination of academic excellence, pastoral care and enrichment opportunities that develop our students into independent, hard-working individuals ready for the world beyond school. We offer a wide range of both academic and vocational courses that meet the needs of all learners. Our students are successful in gaining places at the best universities, on highly sought after Apprenticeship courses or in a wide range of careers with training opportunities.

A comprehensive programme of information, advice and guidance is delivered via a structured programme in tutor periods and enrichment slots.

The Post-16 years however are about so much more than just academic study. We offer numerous opportunities within school for our student population to express themselves or to contribute further to their community. Activities for students to get involved in include The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Community Sports Leadership, fundraising activities and a range of music, drama and social activities. Students also have opportunities to assist with the social and academic development of younger students.



“A student’s Post-16 years are amongst the most exciting, inspiring and rewarding of their academic lives; a time to develop both personally and intellectually.”



Beyond the Classroom

The school conducts annual overseas trips to Spain, France and Italy, amongst other places. Closer to home, we visit places of worship, and important centres such as the Holocaust Centre as well as taking part in outward-bound visits.

Field courses, conferences, competitions on scientific, technological and mathematical themes and theatre and museum visits support curriculum studies and enable students to widen their horizons.

The school prides itself on an extensive extra-curricular programme, with a range of clubs related to literature, music, sport and drama. Traditionally we have been successful in a variety of inter-school sporting activities. Teams represent the school in a wide range of sports.

We participate in the Sports Leaders Programme helping to provide sporting activities for our feeder primary school children. Students volunteer to run sporting activities within the school and wider community and through this activity develop essential life skills such as organisation, motivation, communication and working with others.

All of these extra-curricular activities are important in helping young people to grow in confidence and to develop the skills of team membership.

Many students take advantage of the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and as a result the school has an extensive programme of musical productions which are a major part of school life.

School productions benefit from a purpose built theatre space with modern lighting and sound facilities.



“The school provides a wide range of extra-curricular activities in sport, performing arts and in providing cultural visits. We aim to educate the whole student and develop pupils into well-rounded and culturally enriched young adults.”





The Ripley Academy

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