



# Harrow Way Community School

Learning for life, success for all



# Open Evening

Thursday 28th September 2023, 6-8.30pm

## Welcome to our 2023 Open Evening and Open Mornings.

I am delighted that you have taken the opportunity to find out more about the education you can expect for your child at Harrow Way Community School. A good school seeks to build a partnership with parents, which is sustained throughout the student's school career. Our commitment to high quality relationships between parents, students and staff is based upon a shared sense of purpose and a belief in the value of mutual respect, consideration for others and the importance of positive self-esteem.

Just before the pandemic we were selected to feature in the 2019 edition of The Parliamentary Review. The highly regarded publication, which in past years included a foreword from the Prime Minister, the Education Secretary and a review of the year in education, it also included best practice articles from a select number of the South East's secondary schools including Harrow Way. OFSTED recognised us as a 'good school' in July 2022, a judgement of which we are understandably proud. As a parent you need to have confidence in us that we will deliver a first-class educational experience to your child and provide him or her with the optimum chance to enjoy and to achieve.

The school is determined to build on its successes and we continue to work to ensure that all students achieve their own successful outcomes from their time here. We are recognised throughout the community as an excellent school with a unique and vibrant ethos. Please visit our website: [www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk](http://www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk)

If you are attending our Open Evening you can listen to my presentation in the Auditorium at **6.00pm, 6.45pm or 7.30pm**. We encourage parents to book a place to attend the Headteacher's Talk via [Ticketsource](#) as places in the auditorium are restricted, but the presentation will be available to view on our website following the Open Evening. Please ask staff and students any questions you may have about the school. Also, please feel free to explore the facilities at your leisure. In this leaflet you will find a short introduction to the work of each department, together with information on Open Evening activities. Please feel free to talk to the staff and students about their work.

You may wish to return to us to see the school 'at work' during one of our two **Open Mornings**, on Tuesday 3rd or Thursday 5th October from 9.15 to 10.30am. As well as touring the facilities you will have a further opportunity to meet members of our Senior Leadership Team. You are welcome to bring your child on your morning visit, but please secure the permission of his or her Headteacher beforehand.

I trust that you enjoy your visit and we very much hope to welcome your child as a student in September 2024 and to work with you and your family.

Mrs. Dawn German  
**Headteacher**

## **“Pupils enjoy a wide range of opportunities to develop confidence and character.” *OFSTED, July 2022***

School should give children the wherewithal to participate, to make choices, to understand and to be free to think, to explore, to test their values and to find meaning in their lives.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, allowing students to develop a passion for learning across a wide variety of subjects. Our aim is to provide an excellent education for all our students; an education which brings out the best in all of them and prepares them for success in life.

### **KEY STAGE 3: Years 7 and 8**

In order to ensure a smooth transition and good progress, students will begin Year 7 English lessons based around the book ‘Asha and the Spirit Bird’ by Jasbinder Bilan. All students are given a copy of this in June and asked to read it before starting at Harrow Way.

In Years 7 and 8, all students will follow the National Curriculum, which includes English; Mathematics; Science; Design & Technology; Computing; French or Spanish; Dance; Music; Art and Design; Drama; Geography; History; Physical Education (PE); Religious Education (RE); Personal, Development (PD).

### **Transition Year: Year 9**

At the end of Year 8, students will be guided on to an appropriate pathway for Year 9 study. This will be decided in consultation with parents, giving due diligence to statutory requirements and according to the students’ strengths and interests. In addition to the Core Curriculum of English; English Literature; Maths; Science; PE, Citizenship and PSHE, and national curriculum subjects History, Geography and a Modern Foreign Language, students also have the opportunity to choose five further subjects they have studied at Key Stage three or may choose from new subjects such as Dance; Sociology; Media or Health & Social Care.

### **KEY STAGE 4: Years 10 and 11**

At the end of Year 9, students will be guided as to which of these subjects it would be best for them to continue to follow in Years 10 and 11, in order to gain accreditation.

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# Mathematics

As a Department, we are passionate in the belief that every student should be able to access all aspects of Mathematics in a way that will benefit their choices in life.

Understanding and using numeracy is key to the development of students' knowledge and success. All students are given the opportunity to extend their skills regardless of ability.

Lessons are taught using a variety of methods including written, practical and investigative exercises, whilst making full use of computer software, where appropriate, in order to provide for all learning styles.



*Andrew Jeffrey, the Maths Magician, with Year 8 students.*

In addition to formal lessons, students are able to gain experience from taking part in extracurricular activities. These include visiting speakers, charitable events, days for the more able students, and national Maths challenges.

It is our intention that all students leave Harrow Way Community School having had a positive mathematical experience as well as having achieved their full potential in the subject.

**On Open Evening visitors will be able to look at maths activities and examples of the Year 7 Mathematics programme.**



# English

English in the modern secondary school is a broad and diverse subject that explores the many different ways in which we communicate. The English Department at Harrow Way is committed to the development of the various skills needed to study and create texts across a range of forms and genres.

The Department leads students to academic success, sharing positive relationships with classes whilst maintaining high expectations and levels of behaviour. We encourage students to develop a resilient attitude to their work through regular feedback and opportunities to reflect independently on

progress and targets.



Throughout KS3 and KS4 we maintain a close focus on reading skills such as retrieval and analysis, combined with the development of students' creativity and technical accuracy through writing work. At GCSE, we offer two qualifications,

English Language and English Literature, both of which are delivered through a stimulating and engaging curriculum. Students also have access to a range of additional learning and revision opportunities.

**Please have a good look around the Department, to get a feel for the type of work that students are currently producing.**



# Science

In Science we aim to challenge our students to explore and explain the world around them.



Our Key Stage 3 curriculum has an emphasis on evidence-based learning. Students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and learn to develop the skills which will allow them to take control of their practical investigations.

At KS4 most students will follow a Combined Science course. The combined GCSE provides the students with 2 GCSEs. Some students will have the opportunity to sit the separate sciences: Biology,

Chemistry and Physics. This will result in 3 GCSEs. Students will be guided towards the most appropriate course for them, and each course will challenge students to use the skills they have developed in the lower school to explore scientific phenomena in greater depth. They will learn to use their scientific knowledge to make informed decisions about the important issues facing them, in their rapidly changing society.



**In Laboratories S4 and S6, students will be demonstrating a variety of tasks from our Science curriculum.**

# Computing and ICT

The Computing and ICT Department is proud to offer a curriculum that is extremely well-equipped for the modern technological age. All students are offered the opportunity to take a qualification in Computing and ICT to prepare them for real life experiences.



## **At KS3** (Years 7 and 8)

students discover the world of Computer Science and ICT. Teaching and learning is driven through G Suite: specifically the use of Google Classroom, and the available apps providing students with the opportunity to use the latest cloud technology and become equipped to work effectively in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

We cover most common digital applications including word processing, spreadsheets and presentation software. In Computer Science we teach Networking, Computer Architecture, Data Representation, computational thinking and encourage students to become thoughtful, resilient programmers using Python from Year 7.



**At KS4** students will have 2 pathways, as shown below, and may choose to study either or both to GCSE level.

## **1. GCSE Computer Science.**

This course covers programming fundamentals and concepts; decomposition and analysis of problems; programming through Python; Computer Systems, including hardware, software and data representation. Students are also introduced to computer networking, and the software development lifecycle, including prototyping.

## **2. An ICT qualification (*Level 2 Cambridge Nationals* )**

These courses involve an in-depth programme of study that enables them to become independent users of a wide variety of applications. Many of the applications are industry standard; therefore students learn real world transferable skills.

Pass rates in Computing and ICT are consistently above the National Average.

**Visitors to the Department will see, and interact with, a wide variety of applications. They will also be able to view some of our students at work, learning, exploring and applying new applications.**

# Modern Languages

Learning a language is fun! It helps people understand how their own language works. Britain is a global market and employers consider the ability to communicate in and understand another language a real asset. We hope to foster a love of language, an eagerness to communicate and an openness to other cultures.

We are fully staffed with specialist teachers who are keen to pass on their expertise and enthusiasm. Every classroom is equipped with a Smartboard.

In Key Stage 3 we use the Studio and Viva courses for French and Spanish, supplemented with internet resources and Active Teach.



Lessons may involve many varied activities in listening, speaking, reading and writing, and we try to organise a trip to Paris each year.

At Key Stage 4 students may choose to continue studying Spanish and/or French for GCSE.



**During Open Evening the Department will be giving demonstrations of ICT use in French/Spanish lessons and visitors may be able to learn simple words with our current students.**



# History

Our vision in the History Department is to encourage our students to develop a genuine love of History. Using an enquiry-based approach we encourage our students to become young Historians. Within the classroom environment they have the opportunity to form questions about the past, questioning evidence and forming their own opinions, which in turn allows them to develop their own analytical and reasoning skills.

History is all around us – on the TV, in newspapers, on bookshelves and at the cinema. At Harrow Way, we believe that History forces students to ask questions about particular people, events or cultures – not just Where and When but more importantly, Why and How. Trips are an exciting way to bring History to life and we aim to offer a variety of trips across the year groups. Examples include a Battlefields trip and Hampton Court Palace in KS3 and, for those continuing to GCSE, a visit to Berlin helps support our work on the Rise of the Nazis and the Cold War; furthermore we also offer London trip incorporating a ‘Jack the Ripper’ tour to investigate the History of Crime and Punishment.



# Geography

In the Geography Department we aim to inspire and enthuse our students to take an interest in the world in which we live, and to develop an active, caring and informed attitude to the past, present and future.

This dynamic subject is constantly changing, like our world, and we take advantage of current geographic events and how they shape our world. From wild weather and megacities to volcanoes and earthquakes, we cover it all!



We motivate and challenge our students to reach their potential, and then surpass it.



Field trips offer opportunities for students to employ different learning styles and put their knowledge into context. Previous field trips have included The New Forest, Kew Gardens, Swanage and Lulworth Cove – as well as residential trips to Osmington Bay and the Bay of Naples, for those that continued their studies at GCSE and beyond.

**Geography... you would be lost without it!**





# Performing Arts

Students in Year 7 have a single period of Drama, Dance and Music each week; in Year 8 students continue to have a single period of Drama and Music. During lessons, students engage in a range of practical work intended to give them the skills required to take part in the performing arts throughout the rest of their lives or for further successful study in Key Stage 4 (Yrs 10-11).



The Performing Arts at Harrow Way have bounced back from the pandemic disruption by offering a wide range of exciting opportunities: workshops with industry professionals, regular performances, a range of after-school clubs and theatre trips.



At Key Stage 4 we offer BTEC Awards in Drama, Dance and Music. The BTEC Award is equivalent to a single GCSE and we are proud to say that the Performing Arts department has been officially recognised for helping students to achieve some of the best exam results in Hampshire.

We also run a wide range of extra-curricular activities: Drama Club, Technicians' Club, Show Choir, Pop Band and Dance Club, not to mention the big school musical and Dance show. These clubs engage in a number of performances throughout the year and compete in events such as The Andover Young Musician of the Year competition.

**As you move around the Performing Arts areas you will be able to take part in various activities and see examples of our recent performance work.**

# Media

Media covers a range of topics and skills. It explores many different media forms, institutions and genres including films; magazines; newspapers; television; advertising; video games; websites and the music industry.

Students who study Media learn skills such as how to analyse a moving image text, how to create a professional production and how to explore the issues represented in the media.

At Harrow Way Community School we offer Media as a curriculum pathway from Year 9, which students can then take forward to Years 10 and 11.



Media is always popular with students and offers skills that cross over to many other subjects – as well as increasing the diversity of the students' qualifications.

With the new specification, these subjects offer a mixture of both theory and practical assessments, which will widen students' choice of subjects when they start to consider further education.



# Art & Photography

The Art department provides opportunities for students to find their artistic strengths by experiencing a wide range of materials and techniques, including drawing, painting, textiles, relief work and sculpture. Through contextual, cultural and design projects they learn, build upon and extend art skills. All our projects aim to give students the opportunity to take their work in personal directions so that they can express themselves creatively and have a voice.



At Harrow Way Community School we offer Art and Photography as separate curriculum pathways from Year 9, which students can then take forward to GCSE in Years 10 and 11.

Off-site activities and visiting artists provide an extra layer to the subject, and after school clubs are offered to support projects, homework and to extend skills.

**Please join us for a fun Open Evening activity and to see artwork from across both key stages.**





# Design & Technology

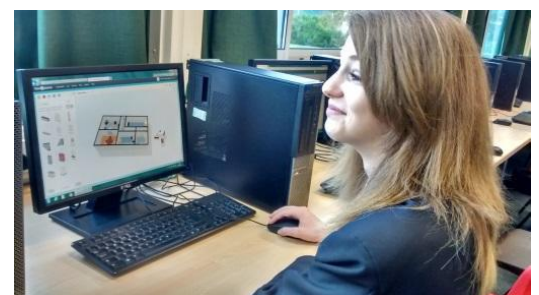
*Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering, GCSE Design and Technology*



Design and Technology lessons are a dynamic, creative and exciting place for learning while promoting innovation and excellence.

We set high standards and expectations for our students so they feel proud of what they have learned and created. Success further up the school really begins with a good foundation of knowledge, skills and a positive challenging and engaging approach. Assessment happens in all lessons through verbal and written feedback, with an emphasis on celebrating positive achievement, engagement and effort.

All projects through KS3 and KS4 are designed to build confidence and skills across a wide range of techniques including: CAD/CAM design and development, 3D printing, laser cutting, soldering small components and culinary skills. Each project involves practical work and considers a user, purpose and function of the final product. All students are encouraged to think, explore, inquire, challenge and question while problem solving and making decisions, and all groups are of mixed ability.



In **Design and Technology** all students research and explore different areas of study to identify user needs. They identify and solve different design problems and reshape their design brief to develop a design specification. This informs the design of innovative, functional, appealing products that respond to needs in a variety of situations. Students explore a variety of design approaches including biomimicry, user-centred design and systems to generate creative ideas iteratively, and present their findings using annotated sketches, detailed plans and 3D modelling. In **Hospitality and Catering**, the main areas covered include the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate and the provisions available, health safety and hygiene, food choice and food nutrition and health. All students cook a repertoire of sweet and savoury dishes for healthy and varied diets.

*Off-site visits include: The Good Food Show (NEC), Cadbury's World , BCOT Catering department, as well as visits to local design and engineering firms such as Stannah and Input Joinery. We also are participants in the Green power battery powered Go Kart racing challenge, events take place at local racing tracks such as Goodwood.*

**During your Open Evening visit:**

**L1: Variety of skills being presented with testers available if you are hungry**

**DT3: Students creating 3D work using the 3D printer or other modelling and making techniques, small workshops creating projects with a variety of skills and students working on their GCSE coursework.**

# Physical Education

PE at Harrow Way is highly valued. We recognise the importance of physical fitness and mental wellbeing and we aim to ensure that students develop a life-long love of physical activity and sport.



Lessons are challenging, engaging and fun. They encourage teamwork and develop individual skill and lessons are fully inclusive ensuring we cater for all abilities through our creative curriculum map students are exposed to a wide variety of sports and activities such as athletics, badminton, football, netball and rugby. In Year 11 students have an option based curriculum creating ownership over their participation in physical activity.

The Department also offers extensive extra-curricular opportunities, with many successes across a range of sports such as netball, athletics, football, cricket and rugby. We strive to offer enriching experiences outside of the classroom and are constantly developing the extracurricular provision tailored to the students as well as running day and residential off-site trips.



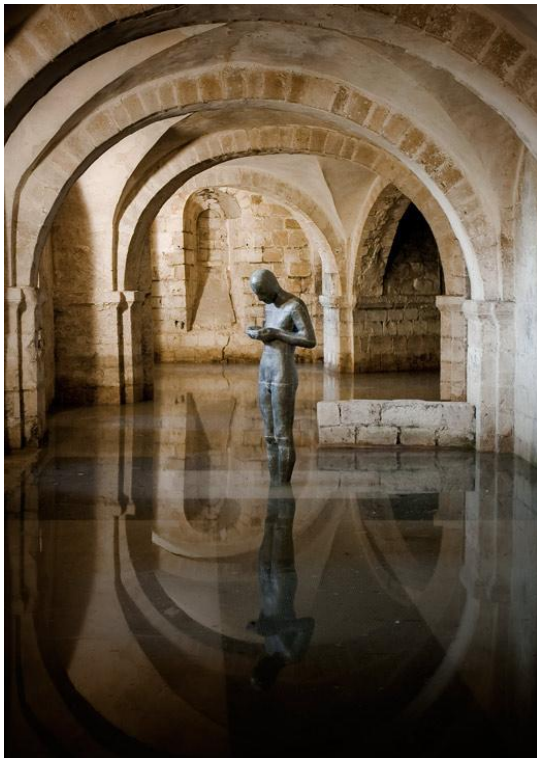
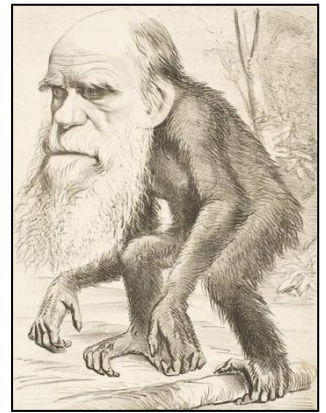
**On Open Evening, come and try some rock climbing on our impressive indoor climbing wall, play badminton and basketball or try your hand at some indoor golf.**

# Religious Education

Philosophy and Religious Education at Harrow Way is provided for all students from Year 7 through to Year 11.

During Year 7 and 8, students will study RE once a week for 60 minutes. Students who choose RE in Year 9 as an option will have three 60-minute lessons per fortnight. Year 9 students study Core RE for one lesson a fortnight, but also have the opportunity to opt for a GCSE in Religious Education, Philosophy and Ethics. This GCSE is becoming increasingly popular.

Philosophy/RE provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. There is also a large portion of the course devoted to



Philosophy where students study; animal rights, death penalty and ethics surrounding the sanctity of life. Whilst there is a focus on Christianity, students will also study Judaism and Islam. Philosophy/RE also contributes to promotion of mutual respect in an increasingly diverse society. The department endeavours to make this subject engaging and motivating with lots of discussion about the unanswerable questions.

***“The unexamined life is not worth living” Socrates***



# Personal Development

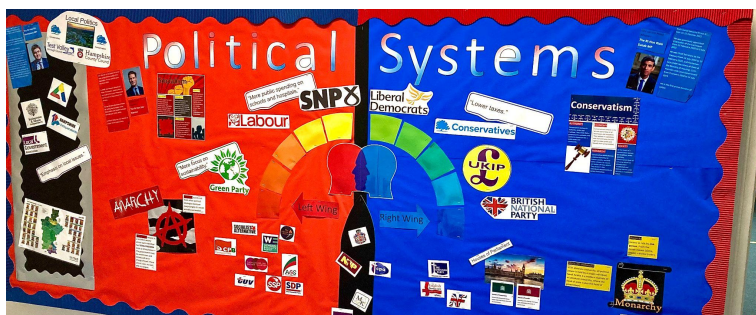
We aim to have a balanced and broadly based curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, and social development of students at the school. Personal Development prepares students at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Personal and Development is a statutory entitlement for all students.

In Years 7 and 8 students have at least one lesson a week of Personal Development. This ensures we cover a variety of topics to help develop students' emotional intelligence and life skills. At Harrow Way we believe these skills are as important as academic skills.

In Years 9, 10 and 11 students have 10 weeks of each of the following subjects: PSHE, Citizenship, and Careers.

**During Open Evening our students will demonstrate CPR and First Aid. Also there will be a chance to take part in election processes.**



# Health & Social Care

Health and Social Care is offered as a BTEC Level 2 Tech award. This course is taught over 3 lessons per week, which enables students to go on work placements and participate in visits and activities. Students will be assessed through 3 separate components: human lifespan and development, health and social care services and values, and health and wellbeing. Components 1 and 2 are internally assessed and Component 3 is an external synoptic assessment.

We try to make the course as practical as possible, to enable students to gain a real understanding of working in a care or health environment.

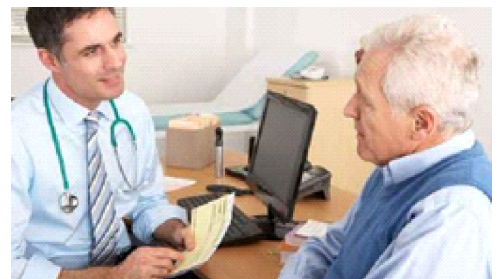


During the course students will study a range of topic areas aimed to give them the skills they need to prepare them for further education in care.

Over the course of 2 years we study care values; learn first aid techniques; visit local pre-schools to prepare and undertake a controlled assessment, and study the six different stages of life from infancy to later adulthood.

The course will give students a good understanding of the career opportunities and job roles available to them in the care industry.

**During Open Evening, our students will be on hand to show their work.**



# Learning Resource Centre

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) provides a welcoming, inclusive environment actively supporting teaching and learning within the school.



It achieves this through the provision of many thousands of books, magazines, vetted website references and specific resource packs. There are 12 computers with internet and printing facilities providing a valuable tool for research, information literacy and homework. We offer a physical library of thousands of fiction and non-fiction books as well as an e-book platform with books, comics, magazines and audio books. All students are automatically enrolled in these. Services are free of charge.



Displays and activities change regularly, reflecting the life of the school as well as national and global events. For example, Holocaust Memorial Day, Safer Internet Day, Human Rights Day, Anti-Bullying Week, Careers Week and many, many more. These are designed to promote



cultural capital and awareness. A calendar is published on the school website.


We run the Hampshire Book Award for Year 8's with Hampshire County Council.

The centre hosts and actively supports a variety of clubs and enrichment sessions during the school week as well as fostering a love of reading through its Library Service and Book Club. The KS3 Media lessons take place in the LRC. We also design, implement and evaluate reading interventions and Reading For Success programmes for struggling and/or reluctant readers.

The LRC is open from 8.00am to 4.00pm daily. We will be available for visits on Open Evening and look forward to seeing you.





A stylized, light blue eagle crest is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the page. The eagle is depicted in profile, facing right, with its wings spread wide. The crest is set against a dark blue background that features a large, light blue shield shape on the left side. The shield has a dark blue border and a light blue interior. The eagle's head is turned slightly towards the shield.

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