

**HIGHWORTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

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***Head of Dance (Maternity Cover)***

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Highworth Grammar School is a successful 11-18 selective girls’ school with approximately 71 boys in the Sixth Form. There are 1534 students on roll – 1077 in Years 7-11 and 459 in Years 12 and 13. Our school is widely recognised as being innovative and highly successful. Highworth has a strong academic reputation and our students are recognised as mature and reliable young people. We aim to deliver the best possible education to all of our students in a safe and secure environment

Our motto of ‘Reach for the Stars’ embodies the daily working life of the whole school community; students are encouraged to see learning as a lifelong activity. A key feature of our motto is happiness which is achieved through excellent student behaviour in lessons; clear policies and guidance; strong leadership; and enthusiastic community spirit. It is important that both staff and students feel confident, happy and valued.

Students at Highworth are given rewards for creativity, problem solving, achievement resilience and team work. We value the development of a full range of skills to offer students the best preparation for future challenges. Working here allows staff to share this balanced approach to education; embrace new ideas; and sustain a sense of enjoyment in their own learning.

We are a Music Specialist Status school and we are proud of the many opportunities provided for achievement in music and the arts. We believe this is crucial in our ethos in encouraging our students to be independent, creative and highly motivated lifelong learners.

During the June 2013 Ofsted Inspection the school was judged as an Outstanding School. In 2019 our A Level results placed us in the top 25% of schools nationally.

**FEATURES OF THE SCHOOL**

These include:

* Caring, supportive and committed staff
* Commitment to professional development
* High academic standards with a large proportion of outstanding lessons
* Vertical Tutoring
* Wireless environment, full internet access, 100mb link
* Cloud storage and software provided by Google.
* Site wide video streaming provided from YouTube education
* Laptop for every teacher
* Wireless multimedia projector for every classroom
* 2 dedicated ICT suites (air conditioned)
* 28 mobile laptop trolleys
* New sports hall
* 10 dedicated Science labs
* 3 Performing Arts studios
* Music Technology suite and recording studio
* DT suite with latest technology
* Research into use of new technologies/pedagogy
* Department areas suited
* Cover supervisors to minimise staff cover
* 10 day timetable with five one hour lessons per day. Current maximum teaching time for full time teachers is 45 out of 50 teaching periods

***Students***

The school has a wide catchment area, taking students from over 40 primary schools, many of which are situated in small villages within the Kent countryside. Entry at age 11 is by the Kent Education Committee Selection Procedure, which aims to identify the top 25% of the ability range. Some students transfer to our school at 16+ from other schools.

***Staff***

We are fully committed to the professional development of all our staff. All new teachers and NQTs follow a well informed and structured induction programme. All staff are encouraged to pursue personal goals and the school fully embraces interest in pastoral and pedagogical innovation. Every member of staff takes part in the annual performance development scheme which also embodies our motto of Reach for the stars.

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## Curriculum

Our curriculum at Key Stage 3 includes all the National Curriculum subjects (Art & Design, English with Drama, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Languages - French, German and Spanish, Music, Physical Education, Dance, Religious Education, Design Technology, Computing and Science).

We offer all Key Stage 3 subjects through to A Level together with Business Studies, Dance, Economics, Film Studies, Further Mathematics, Government & Politics, Media, Photography, Psychology, Sociology and Theatre Studies.

In the current Year 12, students take three or four A Level subjects, continuing with at least three to full A level.  They can also take the Extended Project and qualify for the AQA Bacc.  The majority of our students proceed to courses at Universities and in the last academic year all students who made applications, successfully found suitable places in higher education.

**THE DANCE DEPARTMENT**

The Dance Department strives to develop a vibrant, healthy and diverse community of students who experience dance in many styles, whilst providing a forum for gifted dancers to be exposed to a higher standard of training. The team is made up of 4 members of teaching staff.

**Key Stage 3**

At Key Stage 3, students take part in a number of different units covering different styles of dance such as Bharatanatyam, Break-Dance and Lindy Hop. However, there is focus on Contemporary dance and contact work throughout most units. The units also make cross-curricular links with other subjects such as Art, Drama, English and Music. Lessons include a range of choreography and appreciation tasks to encourage students to experiment with ideas and be reflective learners. The content encourages students to work effectively in groups, sharing and listening to others’ ideas.

**Key Stage 4**

The subject content details the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn during the course of study. This is set out in three core areas of dance: performance, choreography and appreciation.

This specification recognises the role of dance in young people’s lives and students will study a range of dance styles and style fusions. Apart from the solo performance, they can choose any style in which to perform and choreograph, providing it meets the assessment criteria.

The study of the anthology of professional works will develop their ability to critically appraise professional dance works and provide a springboard for engaging in practical tasks.

At Key Stage 4, students are fully assessed against the AQA mark schemes at the end of each unit of study. Students are made aware of the assessment objectives and assessment evidence required at the beginning of each unit. Students’ technical progress is monitored in class via self, peer and teacher assessment during practical tasks and technique classes. Instant feedback is given orally and smart targets are set.

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|  **% of total entries 2019**  |
| **DANCE** |
| 9-7 | 72.4 |
| 9-5 | 96.6 |

 **Key Stage 5**

The course involves studying Dance in both practical and academic contexts. Technical training, predominantly in contemporary dance will focus on developing physical and performance skills. Choreography and repertory performance which are central to the course, are developed in the studio through workshops and rehearsal in preparation for public performance and a practical exam. The course provides an excellent grounding in the practical and academic skills required for degree level study and training in Dance.

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| **% of total entries 2019** |
| **DANCE** |
| A\*-B | 75 |
| A\*-E | 100 |

*Highworth Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. This post will require an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)*