

## The Physical Education Department at Durrington High School

Durrington High School has a thriving and highly successful Physical Education department staffed by an enthusiastic and experienced team of 9 teachers. Our vision is to become outstanding in every aspect of the subject.

We have an excellent range of facilities at Durrington including a sports hall, gymnasium, astroturf, dance studio, fitness suite and multi-use games area. Extra-curricular is undoubtedly a strength of the department and we compete and enjoy significant success in a range of sporting activities at district, county and national levels.

At KS3 we follow a broad and balanced programme of study which enables students to both experience a wide range of practical activities but also allows them to be fully prepared for the rigours of GCSE PE and Dance. Key GCSE terminology is embedded within all KS3 lessons and students are required to develop knowledge within a range of topics.

The last few years of exam results have been strong and have seen significant progress within both PE and Dance. In 2016 114 students sat the GCSE PE. 84% of students achieved A\*-C (national average 68%) with 27% achieving A\*/A (national average 18%). Within Dance 20 students were in the cohort with 80% achieving A\*-C, 20% achieving A\*/A.

In 2017 this improved further with another large cohort of over a hundred in PE achieving 86% A\*-C with 30% achieving A\*/A. In Dance, similar improvements saw the cohort achieving 88% A\*-C with 35% achieving A\*/A. Whilst these results are very pleasing, the team want to continue to improve whilst maintaining the excellent standards that it has set itself.

Durrington High School has recently adopted an evidence informed approach to teaching and all other aspects of our work. Rather than just relying on what we think works, we look to the research evidence and use this to shape our practice. Our progressive and forward thinking department reviews the PE curriculum regularly to ensure that it meets the needs of our students and the new GCSE specifications. We believe the value of developing all colleagues' subject knowledge and use fortnightly Subject Planning and Development Sessions to share good practice and to ensure the quality and consistency of delivery across the team. This without doubt helps build a supportive and broad minded dynamic within the department.

The department is outward looking and always looking to improve and develop. Whether this is through providing new opportunities for students or developing links with other organisations. The DHS PE department has recently worked collaboratively with the Youth Sport Trust and has been appointed an ambassador school. The department regularly organise projects to help encourage participation levels for our students. Sport England 'This girl can' events, 'Stand Tall' projects,

Sports Relief, Whole School 'Grit' Challenges and National School Sports Week are a few of the initiatives that we are actively involved in.

If you wish to be a part of this excellent department then we are looking for an enthusiastic, hardworking, conscientious and committed teacher of PE. You must be dedicated to inspiring and motivating students across both key stage 3 and 4 with delivery of high quality lessons and will also be expected to add to and further improve our extra-curricular provision.

In return you will find us a very supportive and friendly team who all have the common goal to produce the best possible outcomes and opportunities for our students within all aspects of PE and Dance.

**Tom Pickford**

Director of Physical Education and Dance