



Rugby Free Secondary School Prospectus



Kindness



Collaboration



Curiosity



Respect



Resilience



Endeavour

“ Leaders have fostered a culture in which pupils see these differences as a positive thing ”

Ofsted, 2021

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Triumph Learning Trust

Triumph Learning Trust is a community where everyone will flourish and succeed through collaboration, innovation and aspiration. Creating together a place where all belong whilst celebrating the unique identity of the school.

Leadership Culture

Our inspirational leaders build hope and drive improvements, motivating others to feel empowered to take risks and innovate in a culture of kindness, support and togetherness to create schools where all flourish and succeed.

People Development

Investing in people to develop skills and talent to retain, sustain and grow individuals into the roles of tomorrow.



Welcome to RFSS

We are extremely proud of our unique, inclusive and diverse school that reflects the tireless work that staff, students and parents and carers have undertaken together in recent years.

Together, we have established a culture of high expectations across the school, supported every step of the way by our Trust. An ambitious culture has been achieved through the development of strong and positive relationships with all stakeholders, and our reflective approach means we are always striving to improve in all that we do.

We are proud of our school and our community, and the ways in which we work together to ensure that RFSS is the best school that it can be. I am pleased to welcome you to our prospectus, and hope that it gives you flavour of what makes us so popular.

Over the past twelve months, we have been recognised by the Department for Education for our work on attainment, progress and attendance, whilst we have also been selected by the BBC as one of their 'Star Schools'. We are proud of our school, and of our community, and we celebrate our achievements together.





Rugby Free Secondary School is a unique and special place, underpinned by six core values that represent what we live-and-breathe on a daily basis. As a school and as a Trust, we have worked hard to create a culture of high-expectations that are built on the bedrock of healthy and happy relationships.

Students from over 35 Primary Schools join the RFSS and Triumph Learning Trust family every year, all of whom bring their own set of experiences and beliefs. Therefore, we invest heavily in pastoral support to ensure that all students can quickly establish positive relationships, and therefore focus on their learning.



As a parent, I recognise that the happiness and development of the whole child is a school's top priority. At RFSS, high emphasis is placed on students feeling happy, healthy and safe, so that they can maximise their own personal progress.

Our forward-thinking and wide curriculum offer supports students in reaching their full potential, and helping to nurture each child's talents and ambitions throughout their time with us, whilst preparing them to be 'set for life' outside of school.

Our approach to education not only supports academic success, but promotes the development of strong character within our students, enabling them to be critical thinkers who can communicate effectively.

I hope that you find our Prospectus informative and useful, and I urge you to come and see us in action.

Mr Iain Green | Headteacher



“Uniqueness is valued and celebrated”

Ofsted, 2021



Trust Core Values

Kindness
The quality of friendliness, generosity, consideration, honesty



Collaboration
The belief that working and learning with others will lead to greater success

Curiosity
A strong desire to know and to learn



Respect
To appreciate the importance of understanding and admiration for others and self

Resilience
The ability to recover quickly and learn from the difficulties we face



Endeavour
The belief that hard work is needed to achieve something we can be proud of

Set for Life

We are committed to ensuring our students are prepared for life beyond RFSS. We provide students with a wide variety of experiences and opportunities to support their Personal Development.

Our Set for Life curriculum focuses on 4 main areas in which student develop skills and knowledge needed to be healthy and happy members of society.



This includes financial awareness, digital literacy, food, and nutrition.



The includes Careers Education and Guidance, Communication Skills, Volunteering, Interview Techniques.



This includes, Making informed choices, Health and Safety, Mental Health, and Wellbeing, online safety, Social Media and Sex and Relationships Education.



This includes skills and knowledge about Equality and Diversity, Democracy, Volunteering and Social Action.









Resilience

Admissions

The Admissions Process and key dates can be found on our website under Our School/Admissions.

If you are a parent or carer with a child in Year 6 looking to join us in Year 7, you must submit your application for their secondary school place by the deadline of 31 October. Applications must be done to your local authority:

Warwickshire Secondary School Admissions

Warwickshire County Council guidance can be found by on their website www.warwickshire.gov.uk.

Northampton Secondary School Admissions

For those in Northamptonshire the admissions guidance can be found by visiting www.northamptonshire.gov.uk

Once the offer of a place has been made, parents / carers must accept or decline the place as soon as possible with their home admissions authority and not the school.

Whilst nothing is ever guaranteed, making an application before the deadline and selecting RFSS as your first preference school will give the best chance of being offered a place with us in September. We wish you the best of luck and hope you get the place you want.

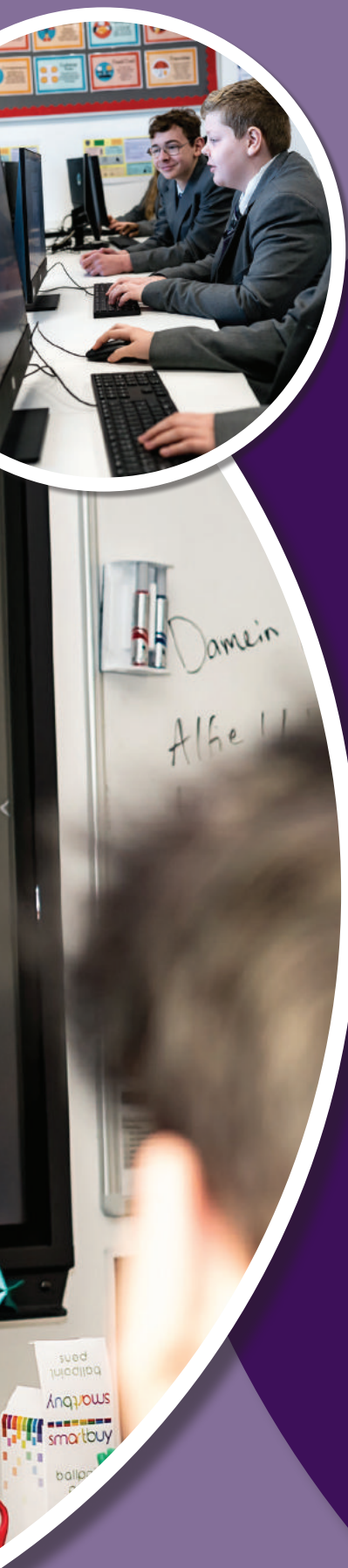
Admissions Appeals

Warwickshire Admissions handle appeals relating to September Year 7 transfer places.

The team can be contacted on 01926 414143 or admissions@warwickshire.gov.uk – or the appeal can be lodged online – www.warwickshire.gov.uk

For In-Year applications (eg, Years 8 - 11), RFSS is responsible for administering the application process.

For full details on this process, please visit www.rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk/admissions where you can download the application form or access further information including the in-year appeal process. You can also email us at rfss-admissions@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk.





Standards and Expectations

We are committed to providing a warm, caring and friendly environment, where students are engaged in their learning.

This is achieved by positive relationships, great teaching and clear boundaries. We insist that all members of the RFSS community show kindness and respect for others at all times. At RFSS we have the highest possible expectations of our staff and students. Every student is expected to meet our high standards of behaviour, attendance, punctuality and uniform whilst continuing to demonstrate our school values.

Relationships for Learning

Relationships for learning are at the heart of the school. We promote and reward positive behaviour and use a restorative approach if things go wrong. We encourage students to reflect on their behaviour and learn from their mistakes whilst ensuring staff are fair, consistent and positive.

Attendance and Punctuality

We encourage students to take pride in both themselves and the school and try their best. High levels of attendance and punctuality are expected. We believe that by attending school regularly and punctually, students will be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them.





Curiosity

Pupils feel confident
'to be themselves'
at Rugby Free
Secondary School

Ofsted, 2021



Uniform

The school uniform can be purchased from Webb Ellis Limited in Rugby and Scallywagz Schoolwear in Daventry.

All other compulsory items can be purchased from high street retailers. A full list of compulsory items is noted below.

P.E. KIT	
Indoor Kit	RFSS grey and purple polo shirt, RFSS purple and grey shorts, black or white trainers.
Outdoor kit	RFSS Rugger top, RFSS grey and purple hoody, RFSS leggings, plain black tracksuit bottoms purple football socks black or white trainers.
RFSS P.E. BAG	

MAIN SCHOOL UNIFORM
RFSS grey school blazer
RFSS purple v-neck jumper (optional)
RFSS school tie
White, long or short sleeved shirt
Black school trousers or skirt. (Skirts must be to the knee and trousers must NOT be skinny fit or leggings. Slim fit tailored trousers are acceptable)
Black school shoes (leather or patent leather only. NO canvas shoes, trainers or logo'd footwear)
Black or white socks/black tights

Blazers/outdoor coats

Students must wear their blazers at all times.

Students will need an appropriate outdoor coat to be worn on top of their school blazer when the weather requires this. This should be black or grey and should not be worn inside the building.

Community Engagement

We recognise that parents play a vital role in supporting students to achieve their potential and encourage parents to work closely with staff.

As a school we provide effective and efficient communications to ensure that parents and carers are involved in all aspects of school life.

We use parent mail as our main method of contact but also provide monthly newsletters and updates via social media platforms.

Local Accountability Board (LAB)

Rugby Free Secondary School is primarily governed by Triumph Learning Trust. However, in addition to the Trust, we have an advisory board called the Local Accountability Board (LAB).

The LAB is a group of parents/carers and community members who meet with the school's leadership team in order to challenge and support them about a range of school issues - Curriculum, teaching and learning, behaviour and attitudes and community engagement. We aim to have parents/carers from different year groups so that we get a broad and balanced view of parents' opinions.

LAB members will be expected to attend 5 meetings a year (or at least 4) and also come in to school at least twice in the year to meet with staff members regarding their area of responsibility e.g. English.

If you are interested in becoming a LAB member, please email the school office and we would love to have a chat with you about the role. The Chair of LAB is Leanne Crick-Hughes, whilst the Vice Chair is Alex Rigler.





We are proud to work with Inclusive Attendance in order to support our students and families with their attendance to school, and the removal of any educational or pastoral barriers.



Safeguarding

RFSS is committed to safeguarding and promotes the welfare of children and young people, expecting all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The safety and welfare of our staff and students is of paramount importance to all those involved in education. We have a team of Designated Safeguarding Leads who are responsible for leading on safeguarding. However, students can and do form positive relationships with school staff and will at times view them as significant and trustworthy adults. We encourage students to talk to staff about anything that worries them and staff will always act in the best interest of students. We also use an online platform in order to raise concern or seek advice



Pastoral Team

Each year group has a Head of Year who is a full time teacher and an Assistant Head of Year (non- teaching) supporting this role. There are also Form Tutors in each year group who meet with their class each morning for registration and who deliver a Form Tutor programme throughout the year that covers all areas of PSHCE and creates opportunities for celebrating success.

This structure also means that students and parents have three dedicated points of contact for their specific year group which allows for regular contact between school and home via phone, email or prearranged meetings. It also reinforces the school value of Collaboration as we all seek to work in partnership for the benefit of your child.





Equal Opportunities and Diversity

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all students. All students, regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, have equal rights to protection. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect, exploitation or radicalisation and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.



Staff take pupils' welfare seriously. They are alert to any signs that a pupil may need support and they report concerns quickly

Ofsted, 2021



Kindness

SEND

Rugby Free Secondary School is committed to providing a positive and engaging learning experience for all students.

In the SEND department, we develop individual and tailored support to build resilience and ensure that every child has equal access to the diverse opportunities our school offers.

Our SENCo is a strong advocate of an inclusive and respectful culture, lead a committed team. Teaching Assistants provide in-class support, small group and 1:1 interventions across a range of areas including Literacy, Numeracy and Social Skills.

Our commitment to you and your child:

- Regular contact with the SEND team including meetings to set and review your child's targets
- Monitoring of your child's progress and feeding this back to you
- Co-production with you and your child of a Pupil Centred Plan that is shared with all teachers
- A supportive, positive and collaborative relationship with you and your child

Disadvantaged Students

We firmly believe that the financial circumstances of our families should in no way limit or prevent students accessing educational opportunities or becoming a barrier to success or inhibiting students from reaching their potential. We therefore provide financial assistance to students in receipt of FSM for extra curricular visits, enrichment opportunities and resources. A member of the Senior Leadership Team has responsibility for monitoring the progress of and development of disadvantaged students.

“ Leaders take action to ensure that pupils who need help get the support they need ”
Ofsted, 2021

Teaching and Learning

Our forward-thinking curriculum, designed to meet the needs of all students, equips our young people with the skills they will need to succeed today, whilst also developing the skills they will need to be ‘Set for Life’, both tomorrow and beyond.

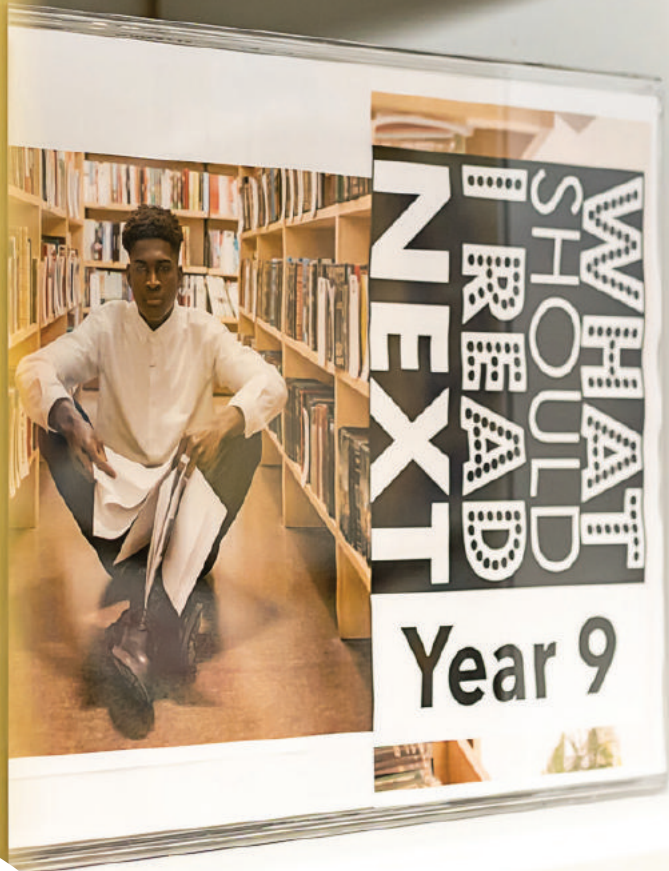
Our highly-skilled and dedicated teachers embrace the latest innovations in teaching and learning, and utilise cutting-edge educational research to ensure that we continually support our students to develop a love of learning to help them become learners for life; developing the powerful knowledge and skills that they will need in the real-world.

In lessons, our students are encouraged to use their thinking skills to build on existing knowledge, to generate their own ideas and opinions, and to solve problems effectively. This philosophy also extends itself to the ‘whole student’, as we strive to develop well rounded individuals who are respectful, curious and resilient.

At RFSS, students have regular opportunities to discuss their academic progress with their teachers, students’ knowledge and skills are then assessed at regular intervals throughout the academic year. Outside of the classroom, students are expected to complete homework to build on what they are learning in lessons.

We are proud to be linked to high-performing educational establishments such as the University of Warwick, and through partnerships such as these, our teaching and learning philosophy continuously evolves.





Our Curriculum Vision

We intend to provide a broad, inclusive and ambitious curriculum that empowers our students to make both academic and personal progress. As a school with a diverse demographic, our aim is to ensure that all students achieve an excellent standard of education that not only prepares them for GCSE and A Level examinations, but ensures they are 'set for life' beyond the gates of Rugby Free Secondary School. As a consequence, all of our work is underpinned by our core values of: Kindness, Respect, Curiosity, Resilience, Collaboration and Endeavour.

Our curriculum in context:

We are a proud member of the Triumph Learning Trust (TLT), which encompasses Rugby Free Secondary School, Rugby Free Primary School, Courthouse Green Primary School and Alderman's Green Primary School. The local context of Rugby heavily influences our curriculum intent and implementation, with contextual factors signifying that students need to be equipped with key knowledge and skills due to the higher-than-national-average cost of living in the area. Here at RFSS, our curriculum offer is driven by the diverse and multicultural nature of our student body, which is something we are proud of, and actively celebrate.

Aspiration and ambition form key components of our curriculum intent and implementation, as at least sixty percent of our cohort experiences at least one form of deprivation, whilst over one third of our students live in areas that have above-average crime rates. As a consequence, we support a multitude of sub-groups both academically and pastorally, with curriculum amendments assisting our high numbers of SEND, EAL and disadvantaged students, whilst also supporting High Prior Attaining students to flourish and thrive in a truly holistic environment that seeks to develop the child as a whole. Relationships and disciplinary Literacy (reading, writing and oracy) are at the heart of everything we do here, and our warm-strict approach is what makes RFSS a unique, and special and fulfilling place to learn and work.

Our curriculum Aims:

- Fully support our students to be happy, healthy and safe in the modern world
- Empower our students to know more, remember more and be able to do more
- Inspire our students to strive for excellence throughout their lives
- Promote inclusion of all students no matter their background, prior attainment or barrier to learning, to ensure access to the same ambitious curriculum content
- Provide the widest possible options available at GCSE and A Level in order to suit the needs of our students, and the local and national requirements
- Ensure the implementation of consistent planning & logical sequencing of content that leads to long term knowledge retention and learning
- Deliver a quality-first wave approach to teaching & learning, that promotes high expectation and inclusive classroom practice
- Supports the personal & character development of our students, enabling students to be 'set for life', and therefore having a positive impact on the community and the world around them
- Enables opportunities for students to develop socially and creatively
- Ensures that all students are numerate and literate

Our Curriculum Continued...

As a consequence of our curriculum, students who leave RFSS will be equipped with the academic qualifications and personal qualities to progress into further education or employment. Our students will have a positive outlook and a commitment to achieving their personal best, through a love of life-long learning.

Subjects at Rugby Free Secondary School:

Students are actively encouraged to take the skills they are learning and apply them to all subjects, thus making them transferrable. This prepares students for the world of work and further studies, where there is emphasis on being multi-skilled.

Students in Year 10 and Year 11 all study the following core subjects: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Core PE and PSHE. Students are then able to select from a wide variety of different subjects to study to supplement their core curriculum towards the end of Year 9:

History	Art
Geography	Drama
Religious Studies	Music
Sociology	Music Technology
Health and Social Care	Sports Studies
Spanish	GCSE PE
Creative iMedia	Textiles
Computer Science	Resistant Materials
Business Studies	Food Nutrition and Preparation
ASDAN	Psychology

...and more!

For more insight into what we are currently offering, do not hesitate to get in touch. If there is a subject or knowledge area you have a particular interest in, we are keen to know and would be happy to discuss how it fits into our current offer.

For information on our subjects at Sixth Form, please explore our Sixth Form Prospectus.





Respect

Enrichment

Outside of the classroom, we offer a wide variety of enrichment and leadership opportunities, as we seek to develop the whole child. Clubs include: School council, Drama and Sport leaders, Eco school, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Coding with LEGO, Voice in a Million, Drama club, Art club, plus many more.

We recognise that access to clubs and activities is a key part of school life in order to support the development of social skills and to enhance mental health. 90% of parents and carers feel that we offer a wide variety of clubs and extra-curricular activities, which is something we are very proud of. Whether you wish to represent the school, or simply attend a club with friends, there is something for everyone at RFSS!

Careers Education (CEIAG)

As part of our forward-thinking curriculum, we ensure that CEIAG is at the heart of preparing our students for the next stage in their journey; whether that is at our Sixth Form, college or future employment. We aim to provide our students with the opportunities to take part in a wide range of STEM activities, undertake one to one career interviews and to work with members of our local community, in order to maximise their experiences and potential.





Useful Information

Rugby Free Secondary School
Anderson Avenue
Rugby
CV22 5PE



01788 222060



info@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk



rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk

Opening hours:

Mon – Fri: 8am – 5pm

Sat – Sun: CLOSED

follow us on:



Twitter
@RugbyFSS



Facebook
**[facebook.com/
RugbyFreeSecondarySchool](https://facebook.com/RugbyFreeSecondarySchool)**



Instagram
rfss_official

Our Facilities

Our state-of-the art £25 million new school building provides both staff and students a wide-range of facilities including:.



Drama

1 drama studio and 1 classroom + we have an Amphitheatre!

11

SCIENCE LABS

including a super lab that can hold up to 60 students!

SPORTS HALL

with viewing gallery!

MUSIC SUITES

Purpose built music rooms, recording studio and music technology suite!

FOOD TECH

fully functioning catering area including full size kitchens

ART

including a dark room for photo development + kiln and pottery wheels!

MULTI-USE SPORTS FIELDS

ALL WEATHER SPORTS PITCHES

for hockey, netball, tennis and football

DANCE STUDIO

AND SO MUCH MORE!



Rugby Free
Secondary School

Anderson Avenue
Rugby, CV22 5PE

Tel: 01788 222060 / 01788 222881

Email: info@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk

www.rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk