



The Rudheath
Senior Academy

PROSPECTUS

I HEADTEACHER'S I WELCOME

Welcome to Rudheath Senior Academy prospectus. I hope it gives you a flavour of our school. We are a medium sized academy that is part of a fantastic Trust called the North West Academies Trust with a caring, family ethos and I am looking forward to your children joining our family and growing along with us.

Our mission is to “open children’s eyes to the wonderful world of possibilities.” We are relentless about making memories and creating remarkable experiences that will last a lifetime.

Our Academy values are excellence and kindness. We believe that everybody should focus simply on a daily routine of aiming to be “1% better every day” and this, along with the crucial human value of kindness (we believe no act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted) are the values we instil in all our staff and students.

We are a school that drives for excellent academic outcomes but also want your children to grow and develop into amazing young people ready to go out and make their mark on the world.

I always ask staff to treat your children as if they were our own. With my own children, I am honest, unapologetic about asking them to work hard, I always ask for more of them as I believe children become what we expect them to be, so we will aim high. At Rudheath, our children are known and valued as individuals. One of my favourite quotes is that “children’s learning is not a rehearsal, they never get a second chance.” I take the responsibility for caring for your children incredibly seriously and am proud and privileged to be able to lead this school.

We have a school with a wonderful environment and excellent facilities for learning, committed and passionate staff and amazing students.

Have a look at the prospectus and please come for a visit any time and see “Remarkable Rudheath” for yourself.

James Kerfoot
Head Teacher



The Rudheath
Senior Academy

MISSION VALUES VISION

OUR MISSION

Opening Children's Eyes to the Wonderful World of Possibility

OUR VALUES

Excellence: 1% improvement and 100% responsibility every day

Kindness: No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted

OUR VISION

RSA will be an oversubscribed school of choice at the heart of the Northwich community which every student, staff member and parent is proud to belong to.

RSA will be relentlessly ambitious about a curriculum that leads to excellent outcomes and careers, creating remarkable experiences and making memories that last a lifetime.

RSA will be continuously driven about nurturing resilient, literate and articulate young people, who will be creative, confident and compassionate as they make their distinct mark on the world.

REMARKABLE RUDHEATH



I RUDHEATH I HISTORY

Rudheath Senior Academy opened as Rudheath Senior Boys and Rudheath Senior Girls in January 1938. The school has been known under other names through its rich history, including Rudheath Secondary Modern and Rudheath County High, before reverting to the original name when the school became part of North West Academies Trust in 2018.

Rudheath school was originally built as two separate schools where the buildings linked together, identified through the consistent sloping tiled roofs. As the school has grown physically over the course of 80+ years, the unique gentle character and individuality has remained.

By the 1970s, a new art and technology block had been built, along with the new science classrooms located onto the school field. The 'New Hall', also known as the stage/Hangout, were also constructed in the same era.

When the refurbished school building reopened in September 2020, a spectacular carved wood Phoenix was erected in what is now known as the Phoenix Quad. It is a symbol of Rudheath's resilience and rebirth like the Phoenix rising from the ashes, but the Phoenix has had a long standing association with the school.

The Phoenix was the symbol of the school for many years, symbolising students finding their wings and flying away full of knowledge. Today, that sentiment continues with our overarching mission to "Open Children's Eyes to the Wonderful World of Possibility."



SUPPORT FOR EVERY STUDENT

We aim to support students academically, personally and emotionally. Our pastoral system is structured in a way to enable us to offer targeted support in a timely manner. All students have a dedicated Head of Year who meets them regularly in larger groups and on a one to one basis should it be required. In addition to this each student has a form tutor who they see every morning. During the year students will meet with their class teachers and subject leads to review their progress and determine next steps in their learning. Form tutors will complete daily tasks with students and insist that our high standards and expectations are met each day and ensure each student is set up and ready to learn.

Contact Head of Year if:

- There is a safeguarding or welfare concern
- There are equipment or uniform issues
- There are issues relating to pastoral care

Contact Head of Faculty for:

- Work or homework queries
- Academic progress queries
- Issues relating to the classroom

Attendance

100% attendance for all students is our aim.

We place the highest priority on good attendance and punctuality and these are essential factors that contribute to progress and the achievement of high standards.

We have a strong attendance policy (available from the school and on our website) that clearly outlines our expectations in relation to achieving and rewarding the highest standards of attainment.

It also includes detailed information on absence from school, holiday requests and our use of fixed penalty fines.

We make no apologies for our high expectations here as this is a habit of excellence.

TRANSITION TO RUDHEATH

Transferring to secondary school can be both an exciting and daunting time for students and parents. At Rudheath Senior Academy, we commit time and resources to ensure that we cater for the needs of all. This includes a number of transition events throughout the year and support from partner primary schools.

At the centre of our transition is a dedicated Year 7 Hub. For the first academic year, students will spend most of their time with their peers and dedicated classroom teachers and support staff in this specialist area of the school.

RSA is unique in offering a dedicated Year 7 transition team to help students make positive transfer from primary school. Our senior leadership team, head of year and form tutors will meet children in Year 6 and stay with them throughout their time at Rudheath. Our team of staff are therefore experienced in dealing with the unique challenges of secondary school and building positive relationships with families throughout.

Our curriculum teaches a broad and balanced range of subjects in an engaging, inspiring and motivating way. We pay particular attention to the core skills of English, Maths and Science but we ensure that students access skills in a broad range of qualifications that they need to reach their full potential. We operate a 3 Year KS3 and ensure children experience and value all our subjects for as long as possible.

Our transition programme includes:

- Open evenings
- Parents' evenings in July and September
- Individual family meetings with key leaders of the school
- A student passport to help ensure a smooth transition
- Transition days to allow students to familiarise themselves with the school and systems



I YEAR I 7

The move to secondary school means many changes for children - so we make every effort to know and understand the needs of individuals to try to ensure a seamless transition.

Our curriculum vision is for all students at Rudheath Senior Academy, regardless of background and circumstance to be prepared for life in the modern world, empowered by our dedicated, expert educators to become kind citizens and resilient learners who achieve excellence. If we are to achieve our vision of excellence and kindness, we need to ensure that we are providing students with a culturally enriching experience of education and a thirst for knowledge. Excellence should be expected.

The Year 7 curriculum offer is designed to inspire and excite pupils, providing them with a connected approach to their learning which builds on their primary school experiences and establishes the key foundations for secondary school success.

Through the values of 'excellence' and 'kindness' our carefully thought-out curriculum will develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding in a broad and balanced approach. We aim to understand each child as an individual, putting in place a provision to best meet their academic and social needs whilst challenging and inspiring them equally.

A love of learning will be developed through the delivery of engaging experiences – both inside and outside of the classroom – planned by subject specialists who will be responsible for supporting children throughout their time at Rudheath Senior Academy.

Students at Rudheath Senior Academy are encouraged to adopt a 'can do' approach to their learning in order to achieve their full potential, whatever their abilities. We believe in inclusive practice. This means that progress of all young people including those with SEND is the responsibility of all staff.

We treat all children as individuals and make sure that their education is tailored to their needs. Our teachers are excellent and work extremely hard with all children in their care. All schools have children who may require additional support at stages in their lives. This may be short term or longer term.

Students will have a dedicated Form Tutor who will be their first priority contact during their school life. The Head of Year will also work with students and parents and carers alike to ensure maximum success at Rudheath.



OUR FACILITIES

At Rudheath Senior, we are clear that the environment children learn in is as important as the quality of teaching delivered.

We have undergone significant transformation to our school buildings since 2018 when North West Academies Trust took over the school.

Over £10 million has been spent ensuring that students have access to high quality classrooms and IT suites, whilst investment has also been made to improve the outdoor environment with communal gardens and a new all-weather pitch.

In September 2022, we opened our brand new block of state-of-the-art science labs and a 60 seater practical demonstration space called The Auditorium.

An extensive refurbishment programme is underway within the Rudheath leisure Centre. This includes a brand new sports hall, improved flooring in the dance studios and a schedule of renovation across other existing school facilities.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

We have a mission to “open children’s eyes to the wonderful world of possibilities” and we aim to achieve this mission through our taught and extra-curricular curriculum.

Our intention throughout our curriculum journey is to provide an education that delivers powerful knowledge and allows RSA students to enter into what Oakeshott calls “The conversation of mankind.” Alongside this, we want to develop our academy values of excellence and kindness so that all our students leave ready to enter society and contribute. We recognise that across the country children from disadvantaged backgrounds have not performed as well as those who are not disadvantaged, and we aim for equality of provision for every child.

We believe all our students have the right to a broad and balanced curriculum and all are entitled to access the full range of subjects and the “best that has been thought and said.”

We have a 3-year Key Stage 3 and our guided choices in Year 9 allow access to ambitious courses in our Key Stage 4.

We define progress in our curriculum as “knowing more and remembering more” and we carefully structure the core knowledge that students require in each year of their learning journey with us.

We are also passionate about ensuring our academy vision is driven by our curriculum and we state that “we will be relentlessly ambitious about a curriculum

that leads to excellent outcomes and careers, creating remarkable experiences and making memories that last a lifetime.” This requires us to have a vibrant extra-curricular and PSHCE programme which prepares them for adult life.

Our vision also aims to be “continuously driven about resilient, literate and articulate young people” and therefore we are working to ensure literacy is at the centre of our curriculum.”

In terms of literacy, we recognise this is an issue across the country, particularly after COVID, and at RSA we are beginning a new programme of reading recovery in 2022-23. We are aiming to have a clear understanding of every child’s reading age and any unique barriers they may face and then to carry out a programme of intervention lessons for any child who faces a barrier. Our ambition is for all our children to leave us fully literate and articulate.





I UNIFORM

School uniform is available from our uniform supplier – Uniformity – based in Chester.

Further information is available by visiting the Uniformity website:
www.uniformityschools.com/collections/rudheath-senior-academy

Blazer	Rudheath Senior Academy School Blazer
Skirt	Standardised black knee length in plain material
Trousers	Black, standard, school tailored style. No shorts, denim, cotton or canvas jeans, leggings or stretch fabrics
Shirt	Plain white tailored with collar which must be tucked in at all times and have the top button fastened
Tie	A school tie must be worn appropriately at all times
Sweater	Plain Black of school logo V-neck knitwear sweater may be worn under the blazer. No other branding is acceptable
Socks	Grey or black
Tights	Black or natural shades without patterns
Footwear	Smart, polished flat shoes (no trainers, pumps, high heels or canvas shoes are allowed)
Religious Dress	Turbans to be of a plain, dark colour or if a Hijab is to be worn, this should be a plain, dark colour

PE Kit

Shirt	RSA PE top/ polo shirt
Shorts	RSA shorts or plain black shorts
Tracksuit Bottoms	Black tracksuit bottoms may be worn
Sports Leggings	RSA sports leggings or plain black sports leggings
Socks	RSA socks or plain black long sports socks
Footwear	Sports trainers – To be used at all times in the sports hall, dance studio, netball courts, gym and on the grass field during the Spring and Summer months
Studded Football Boots	To be worn for all football and rugby lessons
Shin Pads	To be used for all football and rugby lessons

CARE & SUPPORT

At Rudheath Senior Academy we understand that **learning only happens when children feel safe and happy. Therefore, we teach our children about the importance of personal wellbeing and ways in which they can promote and support their own, and others', wellbeing.**

A sense of inclusivity and pride underpin school life, manifesting itself through support for community events, charity organisations and student leadership support. Throughout all levels of the school family, there is a high expectation that student ambassadors will work collaboratively with the school's leaders to support and nurture other pupils throughout their journey with us.

We have invested heavily in our pastoral care to ensure that skilled and experienced staff are available and operating to support every single student and their families. The form tutor is central to this support and acts as a person of support, advice and as a role model to their group.

We celebrate the work of our students regularly and give praise to those who go above and beyond in our environment.

We are proud of our relationships with parents & carers and we firmly believe that a strong relationship between the school, students and families is fundamental to driving our success. Therefore, if students require support or guidance, our staff team are more than happy to identify strategies and plans to ensure they reach their full potential





I WORLD OF I POSSIBILITIES

At Rudheath Senior Academy, students have access to a vast amount of additional opportunities. Extra-curricular activities are a great way to explore and develop new interests, improve self-esteem, make new friends and build a well-rounded résumé.

Sport

Throughout the year, we hold a full programme of sport covering Football, Badminton, Gym, Athletics, Netball, Yoga and Zumba, including competitions with other local schools.

Regular training sessions and sports clubs are led by our dedicated staff team and are a weekly feature of life at Rudheath.

Music

We have groups for a range of music disciplines led by our creative arts department. This includes Pitch Perfect Choir, Guitar and Ukulele Club, Music Technology, and Karaoke.

Students feature in regular concerts and shows providing regular performing opportunities for all ages and abilities across the school. We also have dedicated music tutors for students who wish to develop their skills.

Performing Arts

Performing Arts at Rudheath Senior Academy is about developing the school community and talents, as well as the courses and curriculum we offer. Drama club provides students with experiences on the stage, expanding their confidence and culminating in performances for families, friends and primary schools.

There are also opportunities to take part in Dance and band practice.

Personal Development

Opportunities such as being a student leader, senior prefect or member of the school council allow pupils to make decisions about their school and environment. They will develop teamwork and communication skills, as well as the ability to inspire and motivate their peers.

There are also activities such as Cyber Discovery, Creative Writing and Eco Club which are designed to develop personal interests and bespoke skillsets beyond the classroom environment.

I FREQUENTLY I ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the best way to get to school?

Most students will be able to walk to school, but there are excellent public transports nearby. RSA is located on Middlewich Road, with bus stops, footpaths and railway links in close proximity. We have bike shelters on site at school and a breakfast club for early arrivals.

How will my child's classes be decided?

We pride ourselves on the quality of our pastoral care and our personalised approach. We work very closely with our primary school colleagues to identify the best working groups for all students, with an emphasis on peers they work well with and how to maximise the best learning opportunities. We will monitor progress throughout the year.

How will I receive updates about school?

The Arbor Parent App is our main tool for parent communication. Messages will be sent straight to your mobile phone, including letters, attendance and other notifications. Communications will also be sent via email directly to your registered parent/carer email address.

What are the expectations of students?

At RSA, we have very high expectations of both our students and staff. We expect students to behave in a mature, considerate and polite manner at all times. To allow all our students to make the most of their learning time, we will always robustly challenge any behaviour that does not meet these expectations. Being correctly dressed is very important at Rudheath; we want students to make a positive and lasting impression.



APPLYING TO RUDHEATH SENIOR ACADEMY

Rudheath Senior Academy works with Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority to allocate Year 7 places. The school has an agreed admissions limit of 168 pupils in Year 7.

The Local Authority coordinates the allocation of Year 7 places and applications are made through the Local Authority's website.

Please use the Cheshire West and Chester (CWAC) Local Authority website to register your child. Parents/ Carers can also telephone the school on 01606 42515 or Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority by emailing admissions@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk.

Children attend this school from a number of feeder primary schools in the vicinity of Northwich and Rudheath, including: Lostock Gralam, Rudheath, Wincham, Northwich and Winsford. Application is made by October preceding the year of entry.

Rudheath Senior Academy, and North West Academies Trust as the admitting body of the school, operates the same admissions arrangements as Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority.



I LEARN ABOUT I OUR SCHOOL DAY

At RSA, we are committed to ensuring that every child reaches their full learning and development potential. One of the most important aspects of gaining a great set of results and learning how to succeed in life is to ensure that you have a good record of attendance and punctuality. These two areas are tools for life and are two of the most important skills we acquire when at school.

All students should be on site by 8.30am so they are ready for their dedicated daily tutorial at 8.40am. During 8.40am – 9.10am, students will have a mix of assemblies, PSICHE, personal development and careers guidance.

8.40am – 9.10am	Registration
9.10am – 10.10am	Lesson 1
10.10am – 11.10am	Lesson 2
11.10am – 11.25am	Break
11.25am – 12.25pm	Lesson 3
12.25pm – 1.25pm	Lesson 4
1.25pm – 2.10pm	Lunch
2.10pm – 3.10pm	Lesson 5
3.10pm – 4.10pm	Subject Support and Extra Curriculum Activities



OPENING CHILDREN'S EYES TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF POSSIBILITY

North West Academies Trust believes that an aspirational and inspirational education is the right of every child.

Our success is driven by a commitment to relentlessly work to improve standards and outcomes for our pupils.

As specialists in providing high-quality education, we are passionate about supporting schools within their communities and helping to ensure outstanding learning opportunities for every child.

The ten schools in our trust provide high-quality teaching and strong leadership in a creative, supportive and aspirational environment.

We focus on driving up standards and have the necessary experience of improving standards in education to provide the right learning environment for all children and young adults to achieve their full potential.

We are an organisation built on strong foundations, enabling us to expand and welcome new schools with ease, whilst retaining focus on our core commitment to excellence in education.



The Rudheath
Senior Academy

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