

Physical Education at The Ridgeway School

The Ridgeway has a thriving and dedicated PE department which caters for all members of the community. The school enjoys excellent facilities that form part of the Ridgeway Leisure Centre which the school runs.

This includes a 25m swimming pool, a 5 badminton court sports hall, traditional gymnasium, a modern well equipped fitness suite, 2 squash courts, 8 outdoor tennis courts and extensive playing fields.

As part of its curriculum, the Ridgeway offers GCSE PE, BTEC Sport (Level 2 and Level 3), GCSE Dance, JSLA to students in KS4, A Level PE and CSLA in the Sixth Form. These are popular courses with pupils and results exceeding national averages. In addition, students can follow the Adventure Service Challenge in Years 7 & 8 and Duke of Edinburgh in Years 9-13 with over 400 students completing awards at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

The Ridgeway has a School Sports Co-ordinator who works with our feeder schools and is part of the Swindon Sports Partnership. This has enabled extremely strong P.E links to be forged with our feeder schools who regularly use our facilities throughout the year. The Ridgeway offers many opportunities for extra-curricular sport in a huge number of activities and at all levels through its enrichment programme. It has been successful in a range of sports at District, County and National levels. We participate in fixtures each week with other Swindon schools in our sports partnership in a variety of sports which run throughout the year. The main focus for fixtures involves Rugby, Basketball, Football, Cricket and Athletics for boys and Netball, Hockey, Gymnastics, Dance, Trampolining, Rounders, and Athletics for girls. We do however compete in many other competition events such as Equestrian, Badminton, Table tennis, Tennis and Swimming Galas throughout the year. The school further enhances the extra-curricular programme by offering activities with qualified coaches in a number of sports such as Badminton (breakfast club), Girls cricket, Dance Hip Hop and Golf to name but a few.

Students participate in a structured House Sport programme in Rugby, Football, Hockey, Netball, Badminton, Swimming, and Athletics where they can gain house points for themselves and their respective houses- Avebury, Barbury, Kennett or Silbury.

The annual Gym & Dance Display runs over three nights and regularly involves over 100 students and provides an opportunity for pupils to perform to a large audience.

To celebrate students' success in PE, the department holds an annual awards evening with a celebrity guest speaker, with over 70 students receiving awards. In the past few years Heather Fell (Olympic silver medallist) and James Kirtley (England and Sussex International cricketer) have attended as guest of honour to present the trophies and awards to all students nominated.

The department staff:-

Alex Hill:	Faculty Leader
Rachel Clarke:	Second in Faculty
Mark McMeeking:	Head of Year
Dawn Blackler:	Head of Year
Rosalind Corkett:	School Sports Co-ordinator & Teacher of P.E
Russell Driver	Teacher of P.E