

2023-2024

Newsletter

Autumn 1



**Reddish Hall
School**



The Hive
At Reddish Hall

Part of the Acorn Group



Spotlight on leavers

Saying goodbye:

As we finish another year at Reddish Hall, we say goodbye to an amazing group of students. Our Year 11's have worked very hard during their time with us, and we are incredibly proud of the progress they have made. We had the pleasure to watch them learn, make friends and develop into fine young people. We wish them all luck in their future, and they will be greatly missed by all of us at school.



Congratulations!





Results:

Headlines

- Best success rates ever with Years 10 and 11 achieving over 110 qualifications.
- Highest grades achieved
- Increase in pupils leaving us with Level 2 endpoints ready for T-levels or A-levels.
- Majority of pupils leaving us with 5 or more GCSE-equivalent qualifications.

Highest grades achieved:

Nationally in 2023 there was a considerable fall in the number of grades awarded at grade 4 or above, however we are pleased to report that we have seen a strong increase in this area. Nationally the percentage of grades awarded at grade 4 and above fell by 5%; with 69% of Greater Manchester pupils across all schools achieving grade 4 or better.

Within our specialist SEND school we have had an increase from 46% to 55% of grades being awarded for GCSE level subjects at a grade 4 or above, which is falling just 15% short of all mainstream education including all non-SEND pupils.

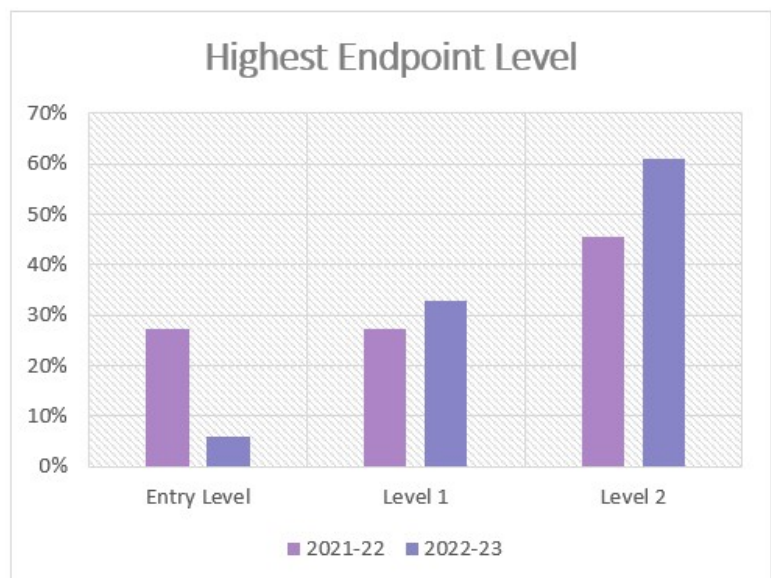
Many colleges and training providers accept a Grade 3 for entry to Level 2 courses post-16, when you consider this measure, we have again increased our achievements from 54% achieving a Grade 3 or higher in 2022, up to 75% of pupils having grade 3 or higher qualifications in 2023.

Additionally, as a school we have seen our first ever achievements of Grade 7.

As a special school, we feel that these statistics show our strong performance against mainstream education. Figures for SEND schools are more difficult to obtain due to the smaller pool of data, as many special schools do not enter pupils for GCSE's.

Nationally, in 2021-22 18.3% of SEND pupils achieved grade 5 or above, this year we are pleased to share that we double that with 36% of our grades being awarded at a grade 5 or higher.

Overall the proportion of pupils leaving us with Level 2 qualifications has strongly increased to well over half, as shown:





Subjects

Sports day:

Our amazing PE department provided our students with an activity filled sports day for each year group. The students had the chance to compete in a variety of sports and exercises including tug of war, football challenges, obstacle courses and many more.

Sports day provided the students with an excellent chance to get active and learn the importance of exercise. Furthermore, it promoted a theme of fair play and teamwork.

Sports day was incredibly successful, and all our students got involved and earned their sports day medal.





Work experience:

From June 26th-July 7th some of our students were extremely busy! During this time 20 of our students took part in work experience placements and on-site enterprise projects. These placements included experience in a huge range of different industries: childcare, horticulture, mechanics, dentistry, catering, horticulture, agriculture, animal care, sales, the third sector, engineering, customer service, catering, play work, personal training and hairdressing to name a few!

It was amazing to see our students developing their ready-to-work skills, showing so much resilience, maturity, confidence and openness to trying new things. We're extremely proud of their achievements and how well they represented Reddish Hall during their time in the world of work!



Here's just some of the amazing feedback about our student's time at work:

"She was very punctual, appropriately dressed, eager to learn and to work, caring and compassionate with children, not afraid to give feedback to parents. She represented the school really, really well."

"He did really well and he coped with being in a different environment. Everyone in the office got on with him really well. He picked up new jobs easily and got everything done that we asked of him."

"They got involved with the tasks they had to do. They were really really good and finished all their jobs very meticulously."





Work experience

Junior reporters:

As part of our work experience programme, students who remained on site for work experience were given the chance to trial different careers in the setting of our school. 2 Students, KW and DB were given the opportunity to experience the career of journalism led by our newsletter co-ordinator Connor Frater.

Db experienced the role of a reporter, going around the school interviewing staff members on their opinions of the recent changes to the Horticulture area. DB's findings were very positive, finding that all staff liked the new and improved garden area, and were excited to try the fresh produce being grown.

KW experienced the role of photographer, taking dramatic and informative photos to accompany DB's interview questions.

Both students enjoyed their role as junior reporters and helped contribute to this term's newsletter.

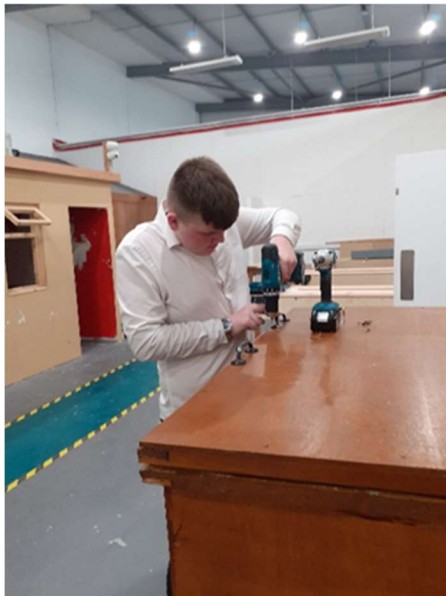
Hopefully in the future they will be inspired to follow a career in the media, and go on to contribute many more articles.





Humanities:

In Humanities KS3 we have been doing an RE research project. Students had to complete independent research into a world religion of their choice and then produce their own choice of project based on their religion. The students were really engaged in this topic and produced some fantastic work.



Construction:

Our students have been busy within the construction department this term learning new skills such as tiling, bricklaying and woodwork.

Students have shown impressive progress and dedication this term, ensuring to always act safe in the workshop. We have been impressed with the quality of work being produced by our amazing students.

This is Albert just applying the finishing touches to his deluxe rabbit hutch that he has made.

Learning Support:

In Learning Support this half term we have been looking at ecosystems in our Geography lessons. We have examined the different biomes around the world by making our own deserts, conducting research at the park and a trip to Sealife to look at how underwater creatures adapt to their environment.





Aspire:

Our Personal development curriculum is being replaced by a brand new Aspire curriculum.

This is because, Ofsted are now using the term Personal Development to assess a specific cluster of provisions that schools should provide. We want to highlight that the subject is different to that what Ofsted call PD, so we have rebranded!

Out with the old, in with the new!

All the topics & lessons are designed to help you maximise life's successes, to help build understanding or personal and social issues.

The subject covers a range of topics that span/spiral KS3 & KS4:

- Human Rights & Social Justice
- Personal Health & Development
- Community, Crime & Independence
- Democracy & Citizenship
- Relationships & Personal Wellbeing
- Personal Safety & Global Issues



English:

In English, Year 7 have been studying A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare.

They have studied the play and its characters. At the beginning pupils were quite nervous to read the Shakespearean text and found it tricky. As time has gone on, they have practiced using difference scripts and acting out scenes from stories and films they know. Last week they spent time acting out scenes from A Midsummer Night's Dream using the original Shakespearean language and they were amazing, using voices and actions to bring the story to life!





Young writers:

Phoebe F, Ruby BB, Billy L and Ruby D are all having mini-saga stories published in Young Writer's Integer - Literary Equations upcoming book. They had to write a whole story in 100 words.

Ruby D from The Hive, is also having another story published in Unsolved - another upcoming book as well.



Star Reader:

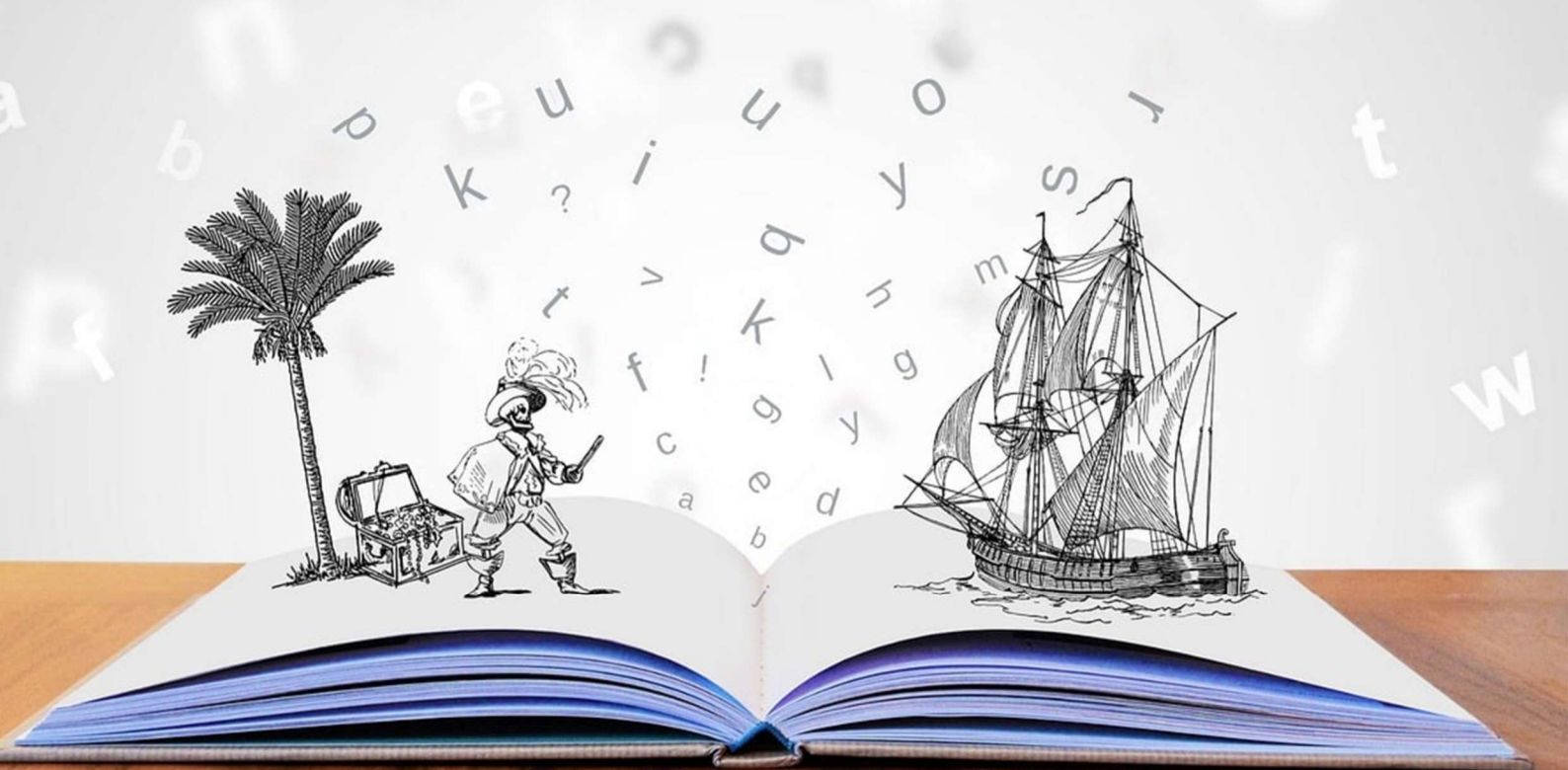
Reddish Hall Star Reader Competition - Star Reader continued for 2022-2023 with 34 pupils participating and reading a total 250 books with an additional 143 read since Spring. Pupils have been awarded prizes for their hard work with Primary reading the most books and 8 pupils being entered for the Prize Draw to win a Hamper full of goodies 😊

Functional Skills English Achievement:

All cohorts except Primary have achieved a Functional Skills qualifications this academic year (breakdown of units below - please include)

Some pupils have progressed a Functional Skills level and have achieved more than 1 Reading & Writing qualification, e.g E2 + E3, E3 + L1, L1 + L2 (from Jan 22 - July 23)

Reading Age Improvement - Reading Ages of 65 pupils (across all cohorts) have improved since September 2022 with 20 pupils progressing to their 'expected reading age' and 28 also 'exceeding' their expected age





Other news

Success story:

J enrolled at Reddish Hall School in 2020 (halfway through Year 9) after struggling in a mainstream provision where his Autism diagnosis and non-epileptic seizures were misunderstood. Besides the educational trauma and lack of LGBTQ+ support, J and his family also experienced many obstacles which unfortunately impacted his attainment and attendance.

Although reluctant at first due to failings from previous settings, all parties involved worked hard to ensure the correct support was in place and in August this year, J left Reddish Hall with an impressive 9 passes.

Not only was he accepted and now smoothly transitioned into his chosen college, but he has continued to access outreach services to which he has now got a new partner, a social circle and is in a band called "Day Old Coffee" where I had the privilege to be a part of the audience.

Please find attached photos of our former pupil at his gig which does not only express a happier individual who has completely turned his life around but also a talented singer/song writer/ guitarist, and who knows - maybe Reddish Hall's first rock star.





Every half term, a member of staff received the extra mile award. This half term, Joshua Baldwin, our English teacher, was the winner!

Josh is amazing with the pupils, he is always on hand to support them through the good and the bad. From what I have seen Josh will drop whatever it is that he is doing in that moment to be on hand to support the students. The students have a good relationship with Josh due to him building these positive relationships at the lunchtime band sessions and also throughout the day when he is there for them. Josh has always been really supportive for staff too and he has always made time to have a chat with me when I've been having a wobble and needed some support. I really appreciate Josh as a part of the team and I feel that he deserves to be recognised for all that he does for the students and staff. Thankyou Josh!



Term Dates:

Autumn Term	
INSET 1	Thursday September 1
INSET 2	Friday September 2
Term Begins	Monday September 5
Half Term	Monday October 24 – Friday November 4
Term Ends	Wednesday December 21
Christmas Holidays	Thursday December 22 – Tuesday January 3

Spring Term	
INSET 3	Wednesday January 4
Term Begins	Thursday January 5
Half Term	Monday February 13 – Friday February 17
Term Ends	Friday March 31
Easter Holidays	Monday April 3 – Friday April 14

Summer Term	
Term Begins	Monday April 17
Bank Holiday Monday	Monday May 1
Bank Holiday Kings Coronation	Monday May 8
Half Term	Monday May 29 – Friday June 2
Term Ends	Friday July 21
INSET 4	Monday July 24
INSET 5 to be carried out as TWILIGHT sessions	



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