

2023-2024

Newsletter

Autumn 1



Reddish Hall
School



The Hive
At Reddish Hall

Part of the Acorn Group



Saying goodbye:

As we finish another year at Reddish Hall, we say goodbye to an amazing group of students. Our Year 11s 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.





Headlines

- Increase in the number of qualifications passed - over 210 this year!
- Pupils on average leaving Reddish Hall with 10 qualifications each.
- The number of pupils leaving Reddish Hall with 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent) has doubled within 3 years.

Additionally, we are confident that our leavers are achieving broadly in line with their potential. We have noticed that around 70% of our leavers are achieving their raw potential.

Number of pupils leaving with 5 or more GCSEs

The proportion of our pupils leaving us with 5 or more GCSE/equivalent qualifications has again increased significantly.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022/23	2023/24
% students gaining 5+ GCSEs	43%	33%	50%	60%	75%

On average, pupils this year have left us with around 10 qualifications each, which is a tremendous achievement for them, and a big increase on previous school records as we broaden our curriculum offer.

Pupils have achieved well across not just GCSEs, but also BTECs, vocational qualifications, and personal development awards such as Prince’s Trust.

Reddish Hall’s first university student:

Reddish Hall are very pleased to share the story of our 2022 leaver Jack M. He joined Reddish Hall in 2017 and worked incredibly hard through these years to achieve amazing results. After leaving us in 2022, Jack attended college studying Engineering. He has continued the hard work he showcased in Reddish as he is now starting his next academic step and will be attending university to study engineering.

Jack is hopefully the first of many Reddish students to keep flourishing once they leave us.

We wish Jack luck in his next few years studying at university, and we would like to say how incredibly proud everyone at Reddish is of this amazing achievement.



Outdoor education:

On outdoor ed, our students participated in the Reddish Hall 50 things to do outdoors challenge where, over the course of the term, students challenged themselves to explore the outdoors and complete as many of the 50 challenges as they could. See below for the challenges the students participated in:

Ask a question	Eat a picnic in the wild	Find some funky fungi	Visit gardens from different countries	Spot & photograph a wild animal
Create some shadow art	Feed ducks, fish or another animal	Go on a Nature Hunt	Get to know a tree	Go cloud watching
Find your way with a map	Try something new	Skim a stone	Make music in the wild	Get your toes wet
Walk through 5 gates or climb 5 stiles	Walk across a stream	Climb to The Cage at Lyme	Create some wild art	Find information from a blue plaque
Spot 5 different birds	Play a game from long ago	Roll down a hill - the bigger the better!	Play pooh sticks	Build a sandcastle
Walk across stepping stones	Collect shells & create art	Take part in a team game	Build a den	Climb a huge hill
Spot 5 wooden animals	Become an outdoor photographer	Complete a walking trail	Spot a fish	Make & wear wild jewellery
Tackle a wooden adventure trail	Statue Eye-Spy at Biddulph	How many bridges can you cross?	Find & explore tunnels	Make a trail with sticks
Catch a falling leaf	Run around in the rain	Find the perfect place to rest for 5 minutes	Explore inside a tree	Hunt for fossils & bones
Spot a red squirrel at Formby	Find 10 things to eat that are growing	Find a flower for every colour of the rainbow	Explore a hidden nook	Fly a kite



Photography:

One of our project 3 students has been pursuing their passion for photography with the assistance of their youth coach. They have been exploring nature and using a camera to capture the beauty of the great outdoors. See below for their amazing, finished photos.



Writing competition:

3 of our very own students, Bailey R, Keira C, and Katie P, have all been selected as winners of the summer Young Writers competition. Their work will be featured in the book Mission Chaos: Amongst the Mayhem, which is set to be published on November 8th. We will receive a complimentary copy, so keep an eye out for it in reception.

A huge congratulations for all our amazing writers: this is a huge achievement for all, especially for Bailey, whose smile will live rent free in our brain forever!

English

Our English students experienced a visit from published author Ross Roberts on the 21st of June. This visit was a great success, with students engaging incredibly well and enjoying learning about the process of becoming an author.

56 pupils have completed the Star Reader competition, having read a total of 316 books since September, and are all in with a chance of winning the prize hamper.

The table shows our Functional Skills Achievement for 23-24 with a total of 87 units being completed:

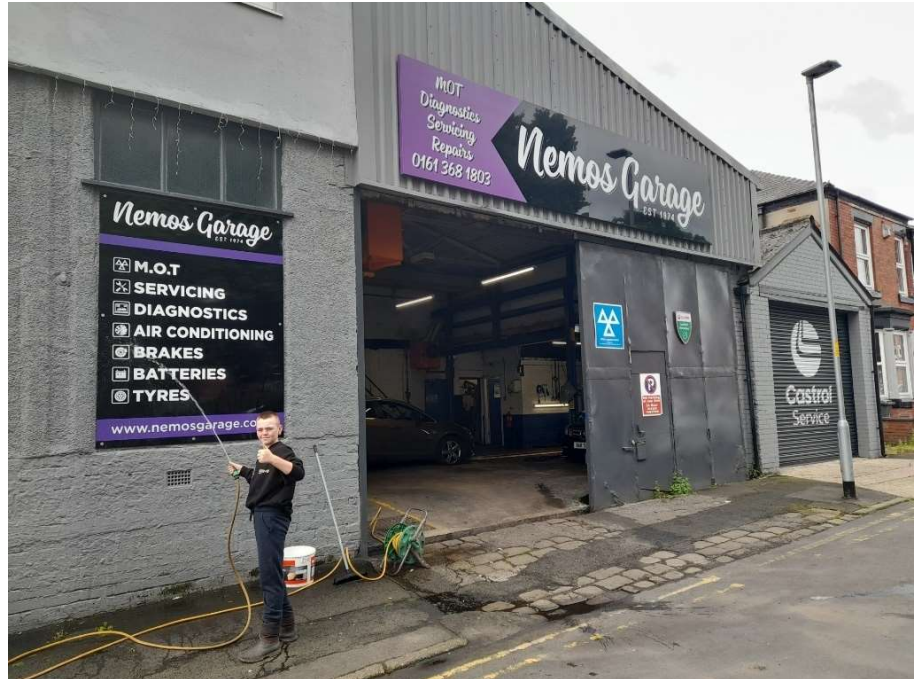
	2023-2024
Entry 1 Reading	9
Entry 1 Writing	5
Entry 2 Reading	14
Entry 2 Writing	6
Entry 3 Reading	9
Entry 3 Writing	10
Level 1 Reading	14
Level 1 Writing	8
Level 2 Reading	7
Level 2 Writing	5
TOTAL:	87



Junior mechanic

One of our Year 9 students completed his own independent work experience over the summer, working at his local garage. Rocco worked incredibly hard at his placement and received the below feedback from their director:

I am writing to commend one of your students, Rocco, who recently completed a voluntary work experience placement with us during the summer holidays.



He showed exceptional commitment and enthusiasm throughout his time here, and I wanted to take a moment to share our positive experience with you.

During his placement, Rocco took on a variety of tasks, including tidying up our workshop, jet-washing the exterior signs, and washing cars. In addition to these tasks, he also engaged in more technical activities, such as: checking lights on cars, observing general servicing, and learning about what a car service entails. He even had the opportunity to observe multiple MOTs being carried out, gaining valuable insight into the process.

Throughout the experience, Rocco was eager to learn and contribute. He consistently made sure our technicians were regularly supplied with cups of tea, which was greatly appreciated by the entire team. Rocco demonstrated responsibility, initiative, and a willingness to learn, which greatly impressed us all.

It's clear that he is a credit to your school, and I wanted to acknowledge the excellent qualities he brought to our workplace. I have attached some pictures of Rocco in action during the work experience, which further highlight his dedication and the quality of work he performed.

Please pass on our thanks and best wishes to Rocco. We would be happy to welcome him back in the future, should he wish to gain further experience.

Thank you for fostering such capable and conscientious students.



Humanities:

Our Humanities project in KS3 was religious inspired paintings / artwork. Pupils were given some existing religious art and the words Peace, Love, Forgive and Joy to use as inspiration to produce their own works of art. Below are some of the amazing pieces created by our students.



Horticulture:

Year 10 horticulture options students made blackcurrant jam in the poly-tunnel using the blackcurrants the students picked from the school horticulture garden. They added redcurrants and raspberries, also picked from the garden, and added elderflower cordial to one batch of jam and star anise & cinnamon sticks to the other batch to enhance the flavour of the jams. They enjoyed tasting both jams on crackers and voted the blackcurrant and elderflower as the winner. Reddish Hall also recently featured at the RHS Flower show at Tatton park with a floral display named “Right up our street”. Using recycled and reclaimed items, Reddish Hall pupils have devised a brownfield garden in which a derelict street has been taken back by nature. A tree growing out of a roof, its roots cascading over the house below, is a visually arresting centrepiece. The school received amazing email feedback from the public. (See below)



Having spent 2 days at the Tatton Flower Show I wanted to congratulate you on your amazing ‘Right up our street’

Everything we saw was wonderful, but your garden took my breath away. Of all we saw, this remains in our memories I’ve told so many how superb it was. You must be very proud

I am writing to congratulate your school on your garden design at Tatton Park.

I really enjoyed looking at the design and appreciate the time it took to complete it.

It is a very busy time of year, and it is even more admirable that your pupils produced the garden.

Whilst I was looking at the garden, a little lad aged about two, found great delight at looking into the buildings. He spotted a dragonfly and a colourful Stag beetle, and he was very happy.



BBC News:

As part of the Tatton flower show, our amazing students attended on the day to present their garden to all the visitors and answer any questions. Katie P was one such student, who also completed an interview with the BBC news, which broadcasted on the news the following evening.



Science:

Our science club this term is now aiming for Gold. Having recently achieved our STEM Silver award, we are turning to the future to see how we can now improve and achieve our Gold award. Science club upcoming topics are:

- Aquatic ecosystem
- Lava lamps
- Geodes
- Mentos and coke
- Slime
- Glow in the dark
- Potato clock



PE:

For sports day this year, our students had the opportunity to visit Propulsion trampoline park. Students were given the opportunity to try a variety of trampoline areas as well as complete timed runs on the inflatable obstacle course. All our students enjoyed the day and are keen for a return visit.



Work experience:

For 2 weeks this June & July, 22 of our pupils took part in a work experience placement.

The range of our work experience placements undertaken reflects the amazing range of skills that our students at Reddish Hall have to offer, from travel agent to mechanic to horticulturist to bookseller and groundsman to estate agent.

This year, workplaces included organisations such as Ford, Honda, Waterstones, Hays Travel, Your Move and Reddish North End. We received some fantastic feedback from local employers about the skills of our young people in the workplace.



Waterstones said of our student Katie, “[she] is highly intelligent... she displayed a genuine excitement, knowledge and passion for books and our related products, attributes essential to bookselling and even teaching our experienced staff a thing or two.”

We are so proud of all our students’ achievements during their work experience, displaying loads of amazing employability skills and translating their skills and qualities to a work setting.

If you know a business, organisation, employer or employee that is interested in getting involved in Reddish Hall’s careers programme, please drop our Head of Careers and Destinations an email at: Emily.Aris@ReddishHallSchool.co.uk





Careers:

This term, we've been highlighting the many and varied pathways into creative careers. Manchester has a rich history of creativity, so our local area is filled with organisations that value creativity and out of the box thinkers- something we have in abundance at Reddish Hall!

12 students have taken part in a project with Reddish Hall School's new partnership, Factory International. Based in Aviva Studios, Factory International produce a year-round programme of the world's best new dance, theatre, music, visual and performance arts and digital commissions as well as a bi-yearly festival: Manchester International Festival. The project, entitled Unlocked: Creative Careers, is a deep dive into careers in the creative world with artist's Rawan, Reece and Tallulah. Students have learnt about production, social media, the role of technicians and loads more. Students are learning how to fulfil a brief and present their ideas to a group. At the end of the project, students will complete a day of hands-on work experience on-site at Aviva Studios.

Continuing our theme of creative careers, our KS4 arts students took trips to Bridgewater Hall and Home Manchester, looking at careers in music and visual arts and what it takes to develop and put on a show. Students got a special insight into the building of Bridgewater Hall and how architects and engineers created the amazing acoustics in the hall, as well as how technicians set up to record special shows.

Work experience feedback:

One of our students received this amazing feedback from her time working at Waterstones bookshop: Well done, Katie!

To whom it may concern,

Katie joined us for her work experience placement at Waterstones Bookshop in Stockport for two weeks between 17th - 28th of June, 2024.

Clearly highly intelligent, Katie breezed through the myriad of in-depth compliance training that we require of all our Booksellers at every level.

Throughout her time with us she displayed a genuine excitement, knowledge and passion for books and our related products, attributes essential to Bookselling and even teaching our experienced staff a thing or two.

During her placement Katie eagerly applied herself to the many varying facets of the role, helping us both operationally to complete returns, unpack and price new deliveries, as well as commercially, to merchandise sections and displays, ensuring that our offer meets Waterstones' high standards.

Katie's punctuality was exemplary, always on time and often early, she didn't miss a day.

The shop she leaves is of a higher standard to the one she arrived at, a testament to her contribution. We're very grateful to Katie for all of her hard work and efforts during the last two weeks.

We wish Katie all the best in her continued studies and future employment.

Yours Sincerely,

Callum Higgins



Stockport County:

Our students were visited by a member of Stockport County Football Club to present them with a chance to have their photo taken with the League 2 championship trophy. All students were very excited to see the trophy and get to lift it themselves. We have numerous Stockport County fans within the school, who were first in line to take part in this special opportunity.



Welcome back tea party:

To celebrate our return to school for a new year, our amazing kitchen staff put on an afternoon tea party for all staff. There was an incredible spread of sandwiches and treats for staff to eat while catching up after the long summer break.



Eco award:

This academic year, students at Reddish Hall have once again received international accreditation for their exceptional work in promoting sustainability and raising environmental awareness amongst their peers.



Term Dates:

Autumn term

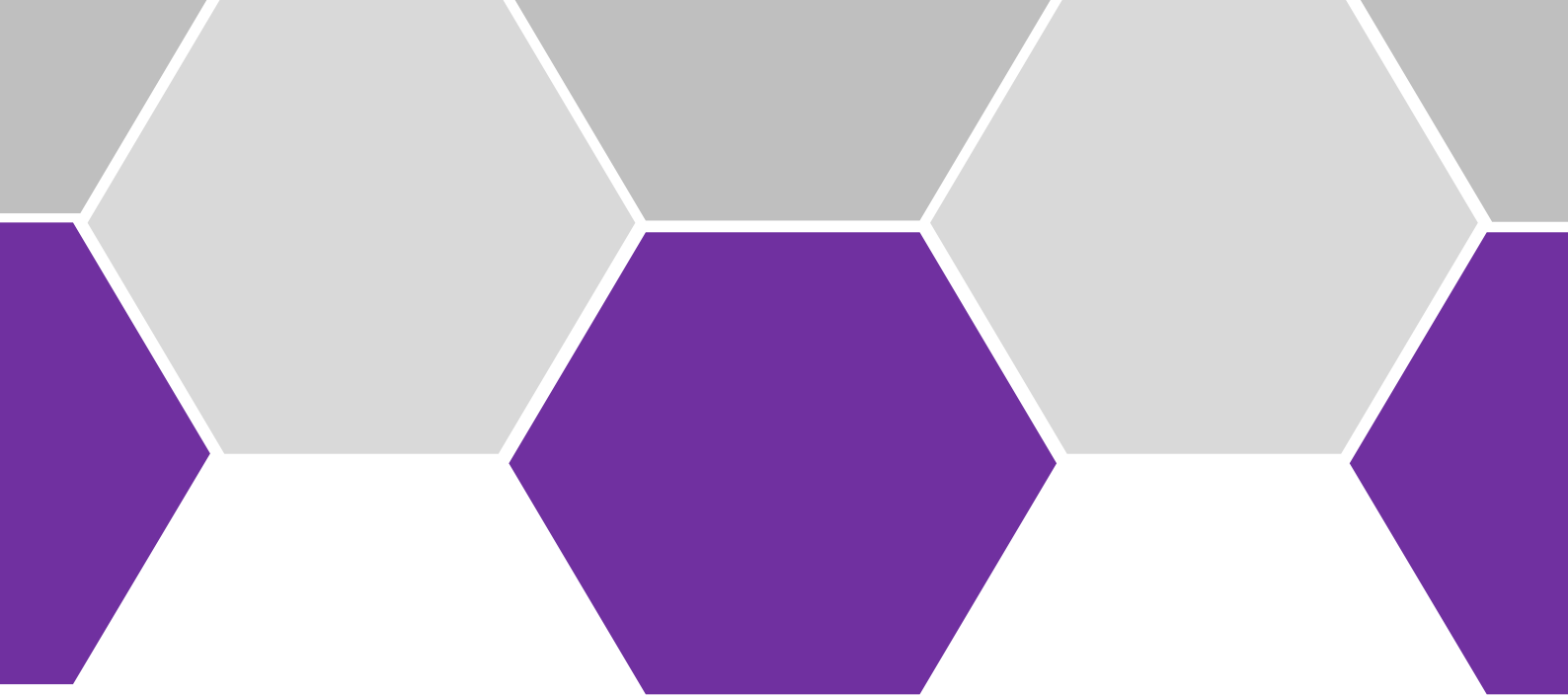
INSET DAY	Monday 2 nd September 2024
INSET DAY	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
TERM BEGINS	Wednesday 4 th September 2024
HALF TERM	Monday 28 th October – Friday 8 th November
TERM ENDS	Friday 20 th December 2024
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	Monday 23 rd December 2024 – Monday 6 th January 2025

Spring term

INSET DAY	Monday 6 th January 2025
TERM BEGINS	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February
TERM ENDS	Friday 4 th April 2025
EASTER HOLIDAYS	Monday 7 th April – Monday 21 st April

Summer term

TERM BEGINS	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025
BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 5 th May 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May 2025
TERM ENDS	Friday 25 th July 2025
SUMMER HOLIDAYS	Monday 28 th July - ? September 2025



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