



HOLMWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the school's ethos and aims, participation in extra-curricular activities is a vital part of our educational provision and pupils are actively encouraged to participate fully in the outstanding provision that exists at Holmwood. The after-school activities provision is optional in Years 4, 5 and 6 but highly encouraged from year 7. Engagement in a wide range of extra-curricular activities enhances the education of our pupils, allowing them the chance to develop character, improve current skills and interests as well as to experience new activities.

OUR EVENING PROGRAMME

The programme of activities evolves and is refreshed each term to take into consideration the weather, staffing, venues and the sports programme, i.e. a cricket skills activity may well be included in the programme for the summer term when cricket is the sport practised in the sports programme. As new activities are introduced, it is accepted that some other activities may be allowed to lapse.

We schedule the programme of extra-curricular activities both in the Pre-Prep and Prep which includes the timetable of clubs run by external staff. The programme aims to achieve a balance between the provision offered to pupils who have different interests; to facilitate key aspects of the wider extra-curricular programme, i.e. the rehearsals for the Year 4 & 5/Year 6 plays; to allow for one-off activities in addition to the programme. And to avoid clashes which put pressure on pupils or undermine core activities, i.e. Senior Chamber Choir practice.

The planning of the school's extra-curricular activities programme enables pupils to experience a wide variety of opportunities, and we aim, as far as possible, to ensure that the activities scheduled each evening are not confined to any one area of school life, i.e. all sports, but instead represent a range of interests.

On occasions pupils are expected to participate in a particular activity in the extra-curricular programme to enable them to honour their commitment to a particular area, i.e. Senior Chamber Choir, 1st Cricket Team, Tennis Squad, world scholars cup, Duke of Edinburgh. This is evaluated termly.

ORGANISATION

Towards the end of each term staff are asked to provide ideas for the activities they would like to run in the following term. This information is then collated to produce a timetable which is published on the school website.

Once the programme of activities for the term is produced, a list of the available activities is presented to each year group with pupils having the opportunity to select those activities in which they are most interested in participating. Activities are then allocated to pupils taking into consideration this information as well as the maximum numbers allowed for each activity group. Although we endeavour to allocate as many activities as requested each term, this is not always possible. In this case pupils are allocated to any activity which has a space. All pupils receive some of their chosen activities each term.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

Pupils in Years R-3 have music lessons each week with our Music teachers. In addition to this, pupils in Years 2 and 3 also have a lesson of drama during the school day.

In Years 4 and 5, pupils have a music lesson and a drama lesson as part of their academic timetable. In addition to this, both year groups put together an annual school drama production in the spring term with rehearsals taking place as part of 'production week'.

In Year 6 pupils have a music or drama lesson as part of their academic timetable with drama taking place as part of the annual school drama productions.

Pupils in years 7 to 11 have the opportunity to take part in a senior production which is performed towards the end of the summer term.

Annually, the music department produces a schedule of ensembles, choirs and band practices which take place during lunchtime. Pupils who are part of these groups are expected to attend these lunchtime sessions as part of their commitment. There are also extra rehearsals scheduled during the day ahead of important functions, such as the Christmas or Summer Concert.

Pupils who receive one-to-one tuition on a particular instrument do so through individual lessons with a peripatetic teacher which are timetabled during the week. LAMDA sessions run in the same way.

SPORT

All pupils benefit from a wide range of sporting opportunities through the sports and PE programme. Pupils in Years R-3 PE/Games each week during the school day. Pupils in Years 4-10 have PE lessons as part of their academic timetables and this is accompanied by afternoon Games sessions.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 3	Games				Games
Year 4	Games / Matches				Games / Matches
Year 5		Games	Matches	Games	
Year 6		Games	Matches	Games	
Year 7		Games	Matches		
Year 8		Games	Matches		
Year 9				Games / Matches	
Year 10				Games / Matches	
Year 11				Games / Matches	

It is expected that each child in Years 4-8 will play in school matches as and when required for their teams. These matches take place primarily on Wednesday afternoons (Years 5-8) and Monday or Friday afternoons (Year 4) but can also take place on other afternoons and/or weekends. We also endeavour to enter teams in national and local sporting competitions where appropriate (e.g. Jet Cup, IAPS tournaments, Lady Taverner's) where pupils may be required to spend a day at a fixture.

ENRICHMENT

Pupils in years 7 to 10 have Enrichment lessons on their weekly timetable. These lessons are designed to teach subjects that will best prepare our pupils for the future, and include subjects such as financial literacy, learning to learn and Government and Governance.