



# The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher: **Mrs L Walton** BA (Hons)



[www.ripleyacademy.org](http://www.ripleyacademy.org)

01773 746334

[enquiries@ripleyacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@ripleyacademy.org)

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Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: **Miss J Scattergood** BEd (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)

Dear Parents

I am delighted to share with you details of our accelerated learning diamond lesson structure. The diamond lesson structure is designed to offer a consistent approach to teaching and learning across the school, and give students the best possible environment within the classroom to achieve their potential.

Each lesson at The Ripley Academy includes the following elements:

- **Connect/Reflect**  
An opportunity to link the lesson to prior learning. This time could also be used to respond to teacher feedback.
- **Big Picture**  
A chance to share the lesson objectives and discuss how the lesson fits into the wider curriculum.
- **Activate**  
This is where the new learning begins, it can be a teacher or student led.
- **Demonstrate**  
The middle of our diamond structure and the most important part of the lesson. This is where students are active within the lesson, completing tasks and demonstrating their learning with the teacher supporting and guiding.
- **Progress Check**  
An activity to check the lesson objectives have been understood. This may take place on more than one occasion.
- **Consolidate**  
A round up of the learning that has taken place during the lesson and a review of whether the objectives have been met.

Attached to this letter is a brief summary of topics to be covered in our Year 8 curriculum during the Autumn term. I hope both you and your child find this information useful. Should you have any queries or concerns then please do not hesitate in contacting the school.

As always, many thanks for your continued support in the education of your child.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Thawley

Deputy Headteacher

**The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ.**

## Year 8 Curriculum Autumn Term 1

Please note that Design Technology is taught on a rotational basis.

English	Engaging with a range of non-fiction texts and the methods writer's use. Weeks are focused on different debates, such as animal rights, healthcare, feminism, racial injustice etc.
Maths	Algebra: Functions and their Graphs Shape: Constructions and Properties of Polygons Number: Ratio and Percentages
Science	Reactions Light & Space Acids and Alkalis
PE	Netball and Athletic field events
History	Tudor monarchs. The Gunpowder Plot.
Geography	Tropical rainforests - climates, vegetation and global issues relating to the ecosystem
RE	Founders and Leaders
MFL - Spanish	Mis vacaciones (Holidays)
MFL - French	Vive les vacances (Holidays)
DT and Art	Design and making skills, Work of others, Foods from around the world, Mythological Creatures.
Drama	Drama skills - still image, narration, audience address, hot seating, staying in role, flash back, thought track, physical theatre, choral speaking, soundscaping and cross cutting, multi-roling.
Music	Rhythm & Pulse - note values, rhythmic features, composing and performing group rhythmic pieces.
PSHE	Risks and safety - exploring awareness of and strategies to avoid risk and exploitation. Includes the concepts of vulnerability and consent