South Dartmoor Community College

# Scholarship Programme

# High Performing Academy

# WHO WE ARE

## Our Values

### Truth

We pursue truth open-mindedly, seeking to help students to enquire, question and challenge, helping them to be well-rounded, resilient, confident, independent learners with a love for learning.

### Respect

We create a safe community that has at its core an understanding of deep respect for self, for others and for the environment; strong relationships are key.

### Equality

We provide high quality teaching and learning, delivering a broad, knowledge rich curriculum, where high aspirations are the norm and success is celebrated, to all students regardless of their background, ethnicity, religion, gender or educational need.

### Excellence

We provide students with opportunities in which to excel, to empower them to make free choices as a foundation for their best possible future; with outcomes in line with, or better than, their peers nationally.

# WHAT WE DO

## The Curriculum

**At South Dartmoor Community College, we educate all students by introducing them to the best that has been thought, written and created.**

We expect students to develop an increasing control over their lives underpinned by a search for truth, respect for self and others, an understanding of social justice and a commitment to being the best they can be. We prepare them for the world of work and adult responsibility, and help them to develop resilience to face life's challenges.

We encourage students to care for and treat other humans with courtesy, dignity and respect and support them to stay mentally, physically and spiritually healthy. We provide opportunities to be creative and to value the arts as key to being culturally educated.

We give value to being healthy and fit and participating in individual and team sports. We enable students to develop intellectual curiosity and provide a secure grounding in the practical skills the modern world requires.

We have an academic curriculum that complements our holistic entitlement programme. This is a broad and balanced curriculum set up for deep learning and the pursuit of powerful knowledge. Good progress is centred on learning more and remembering more, achieved through delivering high quality curriculum enactment every day.

# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

## High Performing Academy

**South Dartmoor Community College runs a Scholars Programme aimed at the most able students; those who are driven to achieve excellence, who have a passion for learning and a hunger for knowledge.**

There are six strands; STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), Literary, Humanities and Social Sciences, Sport, Creative Arts and Performing Arts. Teachers select those students who show the most ability in these areas to embark on a year long scholars' programme. Students may be selected to join one strand or a number of strands, according to where their abilities and talents lie. A very small number of places are reserved for those students who are extremely passionate or enthusiastic in a curriculum area.

The programme for each strand is bespoke and offers a range of curriculum enriching activities designed to make students think and learn more. They include visiting speakers, challenges, conferences and seminars.

Knowledge is power; and this programme enhances students' learning in an enjoyable, scholarly manner.

*Celebrating excellence*

# STEM

## Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

**The STEM Scholarship Programme will focus on key climate issues through the question; *If all the ice melted in Greenland, would we get wet feet?***

Through Science, Technology, Computing and Mathematics we will engage in a variety of exciting activities and challenges to understand the world and how we can be a force for positive change.

Students will use data to predict the future, create their own mathematical models through maths and coding skills on area and volume of spheres, density and solving equations, as well as looking at flood-proof housing designs and impacts on marine life.

Our aim is to empower them to recognise the power of STEM as a force for positive change in the world, linking cause and effect, for the human race to predict, and then take measures to change its' own future.

> *If all the ice melted in Greenland, would we get wet feet?*

# LITERARY

## English and Modern Foreign Languages

**The literary strand of the Scholarship Programme strives to capture the imagination of students and showcase their creative flair and talent whilst inspiring a love of language and illustrating the diversity of opportunities it offers.**

Early in the programme, students will tackle a series of GCHQ language-based challenges and consider how learning one language opens doors to others, including a Latin taster session.

Students will be given the opportunity to explore child language acquisition and work together to craft their own version of a children's storybook. As well as becoming writers, we aim to immerse them in the world of storytelling as they share their work with children from a local primary school.

In addition, students will delve into the art of prosody and be encouraged to consider how we use our voices to shape our individual perspectives and challenge the views of others.

Finally, students will hone their translation skills with a well-known children's book and then be involved in a story-telling session in French or Spanish to local primary school students.

*...capture the imagination...*

# HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## Geography, History, Religious Studies and Social Sciences

**The aim of our Scholarship Programme sessions is to develop curiosity about a range of diverse subject areas, from Forensic Psychology, and the latest developments in Geographical knowledge, to Ancient Rome and beyond.**

Students will develop crucial skills such as interpreting evidence, forming arguments, effective debate, and supporting judgements. They will be supported to become scholars, who think and act in an academic and professional way.

Crucially, students will be inspired by our subjects, and keen to find out more about the world we live in, both past and present.

> *...develop curiosity...*

# SPORT

## Physical Education

**The High Performing Sports Scholarship Programme will improve students' knowledge of effective preparation and recovery from regular high-level practice and competition.**

By deepening understanding of specialist training methods such as *Speed, Agility and Quickness* (SAQ) as well as weight training to improve strength and conditioning, students will be taught how to independently improve their own performances.

A guest Sports Therapist will be educating our performers on how best to recover from strenuous exercise and offer science-based advice on how to recover from common sporting injuries.

Later in the year the students will be working with our School Sports Coordinator to help develop sports leadership skills as well as enjoying a tour of Exeter Chiefs' training facilities to experience what an elite sporting environment looks and feels like.

All of our sessions will be rooted in the latest thinking in sports science which will not only provide students with the knowledge required to improve their own sporting performances but will also prepare them in the strongest possible fashion for our academic sports courses offered.

> *...a tour of Exeter Chiefs...*

# CREATIVE ARTS

## Art, Photography and Graphics

**Through the Creative Arts Scholarship Programme students will have the opportunity to work as book illustrators, graphic designers and animators.**

Students will explore traditional and contemporary practices, introducing them to new and exciting ways of working, including print making and stop motion animation techniques.

We aim to nurture students and develop their ability to use their imagination; to foster a sense of curiosity, independence and resilience. Students will be encouraged to produce their own outcomes in response to stories and they will have an opportunity to showcase their work in a public exhibition.

*...book illustrators, graphic designers and animators...*

# PERFORMING ARTS

## Dance, Drama and Music

**The Performing Arts Scholarship Programme will focus on the power of storytelling through Dance, Drama and Music.**

We will explore storytelling techniques from folk origins through to contemporary techniques; looking at how storytelling has become the core focus of major art styles such as opera, ballet and musicals.

The students will be exploring stories, devising and composing theatre, dance and songs for a new production, and then realising this on stage in July.

Students will experience two professional workshops (one in dance and one by MED Theatre) to support this process.

*"...explore storytelling techniques...*

# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

## Graduation

**The High Performing Academy will run from January until December 2024, when there will be a graduation ceremony to which all students who complete the programme and their families, will be invited.**

Work output, performances, student progress, as well as information and news will be posted on social media as we go through the year so that students can be celebrated for their efforts and achievements.

Following graduation there will be an opportunity to be selected again for the following year in the same or other subjects.

NOTE: All activities are free and will take place in school hours. Details will be provided nearer the time, as relevant to students in each strand.

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