



Marden High School

Media Arts College



Carpe Diem

Made in Marden
Prospectus

Welcome to our thriving and successful school

Marden High is a specialist status school, providing a positive and caring learning environment and high achievement for all.

Marden High is well known for its high academic standards, strong sense of family and very high level of student support. We are a caring community, but we are also challenging.

That's why our excellent and highly qualified staff never lose sight of our overriding commitment to consistently excellent teaching and learning.

You will find that Marden High is special and that we live up to our motto of "Carpe Diem" (or "Seize the Day"). As this suggests, we believe in taking new opportunities, so we are proud of our forward thinking specialist status for the teaching of media arts, science and maths.

Marden High School

Carpe Diem

These specialisms are essential to our unique identity but we also provide a full curriculum designed to bring out the best in everyone. It is enriched by the most modern of technological resources and provides a wealth of exciting experiences for all learners.

I hope that you enjoy finding out more about Marden High School and that you will join us on our exciting quest for knowledge and enlightenment.

Jonathan Morris
Headteacher



welcome

What We Stand For

The Latin motto of the Marden High School community is

Carpe Diem!

Which means

“Rejoice... seize the day;
live life to the fullest;
make the most of what
you have.”



Marden High School

Media Arts College

quality

challenging

So we will

- Put the learning and progress of students first
- Inspire them to be happy, healthy, confident, unique and tolerant individuals who flourish and achieve
- Guide all of them to fulfil their potential academically, socially and spiritually
- Promote their responsibility and resilience, diligence and determination, independence and enterprise
- Encourage their originality and creativity
- Care for them in a safe and equal environment

Quality learning environment

When you visit us, you will see that we are committed to providing the best possible environment. We have a constant programme of refurbishment which is maximising the learning potential of our facilities.

Challenging education for all

Our curriculum develops highly skilled, confident and knowledgeable young people who are ready to undertake the demands of study and work after the age of 16. All Marden pupils are continually challenged to strive for excellence, with many benefiting from our diverse More Able & Talented provision. Our pupils continue their education through a range of post 16 pathways with the majority moving on to university.

Wide-ranging curriculum

From year 7, pupils at Marden study all national curriculum subjects, as well as taking part in an innovative whole school programme of personal, social and spiritual education. Pupils have the opportunity to explore interests more deeply through an engaging range of Independent Study opportunities and Super Learning Events.

From year 10 we combine compulsory English, Maths and Science with an exciting choice of subjects suited to all interests. There are equal opportunities for the academically-gifted and those inclined to more practical, vocational learning. We are committed to new technology, and ICT is studied by all.

Made in Marden

Chris Day

(Ex Marden pupil)
 Pro-Vice Chancellor & Professor of
 Liver Medicine
 Faculty of Medical Sciences
 Newcastle University



“ I enjoyed my time at Marden High School enormously with particular highlights being the sporting activities (I played football, cricket and basketball for the school and area teams) and taking part in school productions of Oliver, Fiddler on the Roof and My Fair Lady. I still keep in touch with lots of the friends and teachers I met at Marden. ”



specialisms

Our specialisms

Marden High has specialist status as a Media Arts, Science and Maths College. The school has a first specialism in Media Arts.

This means that:

- We have state of the art facilities for digital media.
- We aim to achieve higher standards across the curriculum by the application of digital media.
- Courses include digital movie making, web design, image editing and sound recording and editing.
- We share our expertise with other schools, both locally and nationally.
- We have a curriculum that extends beyond the normal school day for our students and the community.
- We work with creative professionals so that students gain the high level skills required for employment in the Media Arts.



Marden Timeline >>>

Follow our students from years 7 to 11

Transition and Year 7
 Age 11



“I’m really glad I came to Marden. I settled in straight away and I’ve made lots of new friends. I love all of my lessons and have taken part in so much since starting here.”

Year 7 student





guidance

Promoting independence

We encourage students to be independent learners by teaching them how to study effectively. We help them understand how to make the best possible use of New Technologies. Our learning platform allows for access to our curriculum from anywhere 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Pupils can create, share and collaborate on documents from any desktop, laptop or mobile device. At Marden High all pupils are given the opportunity to lease a mobile device in order to support learning both in and out of the classroom.



Success for all

At Marden, guidance begins well before our students join the school. Our Head of Transition leads liaison with partner primary schools which involves regular consultation, teacher exchanges and a sequence of visits to the school. All of this helps Year 5 and 6 pupils adjust to the challenges of moving to secondary school. We enjoy excellent relationships with primary schools and seek to build on the high levels of attainment they achieve.

Our year group system is led by five Year Co-ordinators, and all students belong to a tutor group. The form tutor's role is to work closely with their pupils to develop individual's capacity for learning and personal and social accomplishment. The tutor monitors the learning of individual students to ensure that everyone achieves their potential. Our tutors are extremely caring and conscientious in giving students individual attention and in tracking their achievement closely.

We listen to our young people. We have a thriving School Cabinet which plays a full part in the running of the school.

Made in Marden

Carol Malia

(Ex Marden pupil)
BBC TV Presenter



“ Marden High gave me the best start to my life and career. I remember having fun, the engaging teachers and perceptiveness of the staff which made it a caring and nurturing environment. I'll never forget happy hours in the library, in various netball tournaments and my first ski trip to Bulgaria at the age of 13. All great experiences which I draw upon today. I have visited Marden since the addition of its fantastic media centre, which I know to be the envy of many surrounding schools and at the forefront of a thriving industry in the region. ”

independence

Year 8
Age 12

“Before coming to Marden I was very nervous. New students and teachers were a daunting prospect but now I'm here it's great. I've settled in really well and I've made lots of friends. I enjoy Sport, Music and Science because we have loads of equipment and I've had the chance to take part in many different things. I'm really glad I came.”

Year 8 student



“Super Learning Days are our way of taking learning to the extreme! We try to make the most of every minute here and through spending the whole day on one theme which encompasses science and media we show students that learning is for life, not just exams.”

Teacher at Marden



Partnership with parents

It is our belief that students do best when they are given maximum support at school and at home.

We pride ourselves on the positive relationships we build with parents and are very aware of the need to communicate regularly which we do in a variety of ways. All students have learning plans which are used to set targets with full parental involvement. Parents can monitor progress by taking advantage of our on-line parental portal which gives 24/7 access to information on achievement and behaviour.

Students also have a school handbook, which is used for logging homework (or Independent Study, as we call it) and improvement targets and is also an important means of communication with home.

Parents receive three school reports each year: one full report and two interim reports. In addition, parents will have the opportunity for a face to face meeting with teachers at least once each year (twice in year 7).

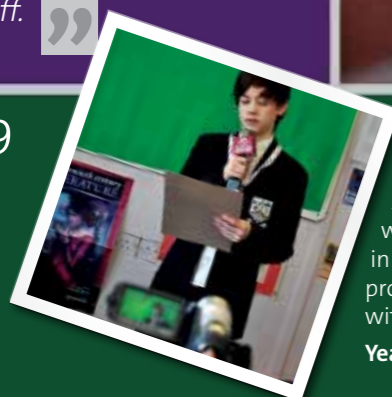


caring

“ I am really pleased that we chose Marden High School and am thrilled with how well my children settled in and the progress they are making.

Since their first day, my children have returned home from Marden talking about all of the things they have learned and the experiences they have had. I have also been very impressed by the level of care shown towards the students and the approachable nature of the staff. ”

Year 9
Age 13



“Being a Media Arts school means we get to take part in really exciting projects and work with professionals.”

Year 9 student



Caring for the individual

Marden is for everyone.

We include all students in the life of the school whatever their background or ability. Some students require more support than others and we use a range of strategies to make sure they have equal opportunities to access our teaching and learning. Our highly-trained teams of special educational needs staff and learning mentors offer support in the classroom and provide students with extra help, as well as counselling on personal matters. We also host the highly rated North Tyneside Deaf Support Centre which is an integral part MHS.

partnerships



“Every week of the year has a theme and it helps us to learn about ourselves and each other.”

Year 9 student

Made in Marden

Sam Volpe

(Ex Marden pupil)
Studying for MA at
Oxford University



Sam left Marden in 2010 with ten A*s and one A and went on to achieve A Levels in English Literature, French, Mathematics and Physics, and an AS Level in Further Maths. Sam is now studying English Language and Literature at Exeter College, Oxford.

To prepare for University, Sam actively sought wider reading which gave him an extensive grounding in literature and culture. To enhance his studies, Sam participated in the BBC School's Question Time Sixth Form team, which won the national competition, and he was also a member of the school's debating society. Sam was a keen tennis player and coach to younger students.

“ Looking back I really value all the opportunities that were available at Marden, with so many challenges to get stuck into, academically and otherwise, I can't imagine having been anywhere else. ”



expectations



Rewarding success

At Marden High, we celebrate success. Positive attitudes to learning are acknowledged regularly through our rewards system. We hold special events, where pupils can exchange their merit points for a range of rewards. A glittering prom is staged every June for our Year 11 leavers.

rewards

Year 10
Age 14



"Students have their voices heard at Marden and the School Cabinet have strong links with the North Tyneside Youth Council, which helps to develop each young person for the future."
Year 10 student and Young Mayor for North Tyneside



A climate for learning

Here at Marden we promote patience, tolerance and praise over criticism. We expect high standards of our students and they respond with excellent behaviour, commitment to learning and consideration for others.

We expect everyone to abide by our uniform policy because at Marden we believe in taking pride in all aspects of school life. The school looks to the home for support in all such matters of behaviour and school routine, so that students learn to take responsibility for their own actions.

"I've had the chance to visit five different countries during the time I've been at Marden."
Year 10 student



Made in Marden

Stephanie Hails

Marden pupil

"I began studying at Marden high School in September 2005 until July 2010. Studying at Marden has provided me with memories, friends and skills that will last a life time. I am extremely passionate about dancing and have always wanted to pursue this as my career, because of this I am a strong practical learner."

After completing my GCSE's with Marden High School I knew I didn't want to study A-levels, so I decided to audition for an Advanced Performing Arts programme at Newcastle College specialising in dance. As well as this I was competing and training in various dance venues across the country.

In my second year of college I began to audition for vocational dance schools and universities gaining a place at top dance schools such as 'London Studio Centre' and 'Lipa'. Due to the financial costs of study and living costs I unfortunately couldn't attend so decided to remain based in Newcastle studying a foundation degree in Contemporary dance where I aim to graduate next June in the hope I will be able to study in London in September 2014 to achieve my dream of being a commercial dancer.

I have recently qualified as a Zumba instructor so I am working towards setting up my own business which I plan to expand into other areas of dance based fitness.

At present I am working on a world wide dance project, and various other dance jobs throughout the country.

Studying at Marden has given me a disciplined work ethic and an eager attitude to succeed in life."



"Staff go the extra mile for students here... literally!"
Teacher at Marden



Made in Marden

Andrew Dunn

(Ex Marden pupil)
Actor
(*Dinner Ladies* amongst many others)



“My time at Marden High was very good and I remember it with great fondness. Even then I wanted to be an actor and I always performed in the annual musicals and got on well with the teachers – and after leaving school I fulfilled my dream. Be nice to the dinner ladies!”

Nick Rudd

Nick left Marden in 2010 with eight A*s and two grade A's. He went on to achieve A Levels in Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry and General Studies, and AS Levels in Further Maths and Biology. He is currently studying a Masters degree in Physics at Durham University. During his time in Sixth Form, Nick attended a Physics trip to CERN and a Physics conference at Nottingham University. Nick was a member of the school's Astronomy and Café Scientifique clubs and also undertook an Open University module on Astronomy. Aside from study, Nick was a fantastic trumpet player with the North Tyneside Band and orchestra and school Jazz Band.

Year 11
Age 15



“Opening that envelope feels absolutely unreal. To see a grade A when your target is a B makes you realise that you can do anything if you put your mind to it. The teachers at Marden keep pushing you until you achieve your best. Sometimes it's hard but it's worth it and you always know that that they care.”

Year 11 student



“Our trip to the Big Apple was awesome.”

Year 11 student



Opportunities beyond the classroom

Students are encouraged to experience a variety of worthwhile societies and activities outside of lesson time.

Travelling abroad is an important feature of school life at Marden High with hundreds of pupils making overseas educational visits each year. Excursions include annual trips to France and Germany, trips to New York, and the regular skiing holiday to Austria is a great favourite.

A large number of students give up much of their time to develop their musical skills. Our PE staff organise a range of team sport activities all year round with regular use being made of outdoor education centres such as High Borrans in the Lake District.

opportunities

future





the vision

Step into the future

We are acutely conscious of the need to prepare Year 11 students for the next stage of their careers. Students are prepared for study at college or local sixth forms and everyone is given work-related learning. There is a robust programme of careers guidance which is well supported by our advisers. Marden High has strong ties with schools, sixth forms, private schools and local employers. We have also joined with two other schools and Tyne Metropolitan College to create Queen Alexandra Sixth Form College to offer a seamless pathway from school through to A level and then on to university.

“ Celebrating the achievements of our students is really important to us. There are so many proud moments when we see that our young people have grown into confident, successful and well equipped young adults. ”

Teacher at Marden



The vision is reality

Now that you have read about Marden High School, why don't you come and see what we do at first hand?

Just contact us to arrange a tour of the school so that you can see Carpe Diem in action.



the
reality





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