



REDDING SCHOOL <sup>of</sup> the ARTS  
WHERE EDUCATION AND THE ARTS CONNECT

雷丁艺术学校  
教育与艺术融合的舞台/殿堂

## HOMESCHOOL AND VIRTUAL INDEPENDENT STUDY

### Family Handbook 2018-2019

Board Approved: 5/18/2018

**Redding School of the Arts**  
955 Inspiration Place – Redding CA 96003  
Phone: (530) 247-6933 / FAX (530) 243-4318

#### **Mission**

The mission of Redding School of the Arts Homeschool and Virtual Independent Study is to educate TK-8 students who have an interest in visual and performing arts and cultivate their knowledge and skills for the betterment of their local and global community. We strive to support the unique learning styles and interests of the home school student and encourage the parent in their role as educator.

#### **The History of RSA**

RSA is a charter school that was founded in 1999. We are currently located at 955 Inspiration Place in Redding, California. At RSA we believe that children learn best through a student-centered, multicultural, thematic approach to instruction that emphasizes the visual and performing arts.

RSA was founded by Jean Hatch and Margaret Johnson during an era when the visual and performing arts were being pushed aside in the general public school curriculum. Their theory, backed by research that children learn best through the visual and performing arts, has produced great results. The school boasts API scores of over 800, exceeding county, state, and national averages for over six years. Over the past fifteen years RSA has been recognized with many awards, grants and recognitions including a Creative School of Excellence Award, six Year WASC Accreditation and Promising Practice recognition from USC. The greatest evidence is seen when you walk down the hallways of our school and see the authentic learning that is taking place in the classrooms.

## **Diversity**

Children are diverse in learning styles, language, cultural and religious backgrounds, developmental levels, and social and emotional understandings. Our goal is to respond in ways that honor the richness of this diversity. It means that students, teachers, and parents at RSA respect and appreciate diversity, realizing that we all contribute in unique ways to the RSA family. RSA will not discriminate against any student or employee based on actual or perceived characteristics of nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, ethnic group identification, age, national origin, ancestry, genetic characteristics, mental or physical disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or other category protected by law.

## **The Independent Study Program**

### Admission

- ❖ Redding School of the Arts Independent Study is a TK-8 public school. As such, we admit any student who applies as long as the student meets California's state residency requirements and is at least five years old by September 2<sup>nd</sup> of the year in which they enroll. TK students are admitted once they become 5 after September 2<sup>nd</sup> and up until December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ❖ In accordance with California State Assembly Bill 544, it is not legal for a student to be concurrently enrolled full time in a charter school and in any other school: public or private.
- ❖ Redding School of the Arts does not discriminate against any student or employee based on actual or perceived characteristics of nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, ethnic group identification, age, national origin, ancestry, genetic characteristics, mental or physical disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or other category protected by law.

### Attendance

- ❖ Attendance credit is based upon work completion. Work is reviewed every 5- 20 school days as determined by the teacher-of-record. Incomplete assigned work equates to missed attendance credit. After 5 unexcused absences a meeting is held between the parent, student and teacher-of-record to discuss whether home school is the right fit for the student, and to sign a probationary letter outlining the absences due to incomplete work.

- ❖ Absence from assigned academic work shall be excused only for health & medical reasons, - family funeral services or other justifiable reasons as stated in the California Education Code.
- ❖ A total of ten days of absences due to non- work completion, both excused and not excused, is considered grounds to return the student to their district of residence.
- ❖ If a parent is ill they must find a substitute instructor for that academic day for their child and/or make every effort to meet the academic needs of their child/children. Parent illness will not be noted as a student illness for attendance purposes.

Contract

- ❖ An initial contract is signed for a 30 day probationary period by parent, student and teacher-of-record. After this initial contract, a meeting is held with all parties to discuss if homeschool is the best fit for the student. After the initial contract, remaining contracts are based upon trimester or by teacher-of-record discretion.

Grading/Report Cards

- ❖ Homeschool and Virtual Independent Study students are graded based upon a pass/fail system which is determined by work completed and meeting attendance.
- ❖ Report cards may include: attendance as determined by work completion and student progress as determined by both formal in informal assessments.

Teacher of Record

- ❖ The teacher-of-record works with both the student and the parents/guardians to support the academic and social-emotional needs of the student.
- ❖ Every 5-20 school days the parent/guardian, student and teacher-of –record meet to review and collect academic work, determine student attendance credit, update student/parent contracts and discuss both student and parent needs regarding the student’s progress.

Available Curricula: examples

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| ❖ Saxon Math           | ❖ Singapore Math    |
| ❖ Readworks            | ❖ Wordly Wise       |
| ❖ IXL                  | ❖ Explode the Code  |
| ❖ Mobymax              | ❖ Words their Way   |
| ❖ Studies Weekly       | ❖ Everyday Spelling |
| ❖ Peak/ K-12 Fueled Ed | ❖ All about Reading |
| ❖ Literature novels    | ❖ GUM               |
| ❖ Step up to Writing   | ❖ Spalding Phonics  |

## Health Requirements

### Immunizations

- ❖ New immunization requirements for 2016. Under a new law known as SB 277, beginning January 1, 2016 exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into child care or school in California. No child may be admitted to classroom based programs unless the child has been fully immunized prior to admission against poliomyelitis (polio), rubella (measles, German measles), mumps, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, Hepatitis B, and Varicella (VZV), and any other disease deemed appropriate by the department.
- ❖ . Starting in 2012 all students entering into 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade will need proof of the Tdap booster prior to starting school. Acceptable evidence of immunization is a certificate signed by the physician or agency that administered the immunization (E.C.46010.5 and 49403).
- ❖ If a student is enrolled and fails to fulfill the immunization requirements, the school will prohibit the student from onsite classes until that student has been fully immunized. Immunization records are reviewed by the school nurse. For additional details on SB277 see the RSA Immunization Policy and/or :  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB277](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277)

### **State and Local Testing**

In compliance with California State Testing and Accountability, Redding School of the Arts Independent Study program administers the following assessments:

- ❖ -CAASPP California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress: grades 3-8 (Spring)
- ❖ -CAST California Science Test: Grades 5 and 8 (Spring)
- ❖ -PFT Physical Fitness Test: Grades 5 and 7 (Spring)

RSA also administers the NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) to record growth and identify areas for remediation:

- ❖ -NWEA: Grades 2 (beginning in winter term) -8 (Fall, Winter,)

### Routine Screenings

- ❖ According to appropriate grade level schedules, all children will receive screenings for vision, hearing, dental, and speech & language skills. Parents have the right to refuse these services for their child.

### Physical Fitness Testing

- ❖ By law (*California Education Code [EC] Section 60800*), all LEAs in California are required to administer the Physical Fitness Test (PFT) annually, February 1 through May 31, to students in grades five, seven, and nine.
- ❖ All California public school students in grades five, seven, and nine are required to take the PFT, whether or not they are enrolled in a physical education class or participate in a block schedule. These students include those enrolled in elementary, highschool, and unified school districts, county offices of education and charter schools. Students in alternate programs, including, but not limited to, continuation schools, independent study, community day schools, county community schools, and non-public schools must also take the PFT. Students who are physically unable to participate in the entire PFT should complete as many of the tests as possible. A physician's medical note to exempt student from portions of the test must be submitted to school office prior to testing.

### **Student Life (Detailed information can be found in the RSA Family Handbook)**

#### Code of Conduct

- ❖ Redding School of the Arts maintains high behavioral standards based on the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Students are expected to exhibit behaviors reflective of these six tenets.

#### Dress Code

- ❖ Please refer to the RSA Family Handbook as dress code rules apply to both homeschool and site based students equally.

#### Sports

- ❖ Independent Study students are encouraged to participate in RSA's Cross Country team in the fall and our basketball camps and teams in the spring.

#### Technology

- ❖ All students in grades K-8 are offered the opportunity to check out a Chrome Book or laptop for the school year.
- ❖ Please refer to the RSA Family Handbook for details on our RSA technology use agreement as well as the Chromebook Policy, Procedures, and Information Handbook.

### RSA Library

- ❖ All Independent Study families are encouraged to utilize our school library.
- ❖ Please refer to the RSA Family Handbook for specific details regarding library policies and usage.

### On-site electives and financial support for outside vendors

- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade vaccinated students may sign up for onsite VAPA and/or PE electives.

All students are allotted financial support to offset their costs for VAPA lessons, physical education and/or tutoring Weekly Enrichment

- ❖ Enrichment is offered to support students' social interaction.
  - TK-2 from 8-11:35
  - 3-5 from 12-3:00
  - 6-8 from 12:25-3:00

### Blended Learning Classroom

- ❖ On-site classes for all grades in math, science, writing and electives as determined by student need.
  - These classes run in 4-6 week rotations and support the current academic needs of the Independent Study students. Vaccinated students have the ability to sign up for these courses to support their academic progress in a classroom setting with students in their peer group and are instructed and supervised by a credentialed teacher.
- ❖ Open lab time is offered weekly for 4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to work on their assigned courses. Students must sign up for this time to ensure that proper supervision is in place. This time is supervised by either a credentialed teacher or instructional coach.

### Middle School Science Camps and Field Trip Opportunities (If space is available)

- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> grade WES Camp
- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> grade Ashland, Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> grade Toyon Bay Catalina Island Marine Institute
- ❖ RSA's Independent Study program additionally runs a separate field trip schedule for the academic year; approximately 4-5 trips annually that families are welcome to participate in.

### **Special Education Services for Homeschool and Virtual Independent Study**

- ❖ RSA's Special Education department supports Homeschool and Virtual Independent Study students as determined by the SST, IEP or 504 team which may include special education professionals, the teacher-of-record, RSA administration and the parent(s)/ guardian (s).

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies and procedures contained in this handbook and any revisions made to it.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher-of-Record \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_