HOLY FAMILY
RC & CE COLLEGE

The English Department

We are a successful and friendly Faculty and we place great emphasis on working as a team. We get together regularly to develop and share resources to improve the delivery of the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 and to further enhance CPD.

The person appointed should have enthusiasm for their subject and will be expected to work effectively as a member of this dedicated English Faculty to ensure that when pupils enter their English lesson they: 'bear witness to us striving to uphold their right to learn and our right to teach…with a smile.'

The Candidate

You will:

- be an enthusiastic and highly motivated teacher of English, who is capable of teaching across the ability range at both KS3 and KS4;
- fully support the Christian ethos of the school;
- be a dynamic classroom practitioner who enjoys motivating pupils through exciting and challenging texts;
- have a good working knowledge of ICT and be able to use it in the classroom; and
- be prepared to participate in extra-curricular activities in order to further our students' experience in learning at both Key Stages.

The department

There are currently 5 full-time teachers, who deliver the KS3 and KS4 syllabi.

The department has very high expectations. We are continually looking to improve results and quality of teaching and learning to ensure all pupils achieve targets to reach the top 5% nationally, so we look forward to new suggestions, initiatives and interventions a new team member is able to offer, including ideas for extra-curricular activities. The successful candidate will join a very strong, effective and supportive department.

Curriculum and assessment

The schemes of work at Key Stage 3 have been re-designed according to the new Curriculum and are focused on from rigorous planning in the long and medium-term objectives. All plans are annually reviewed and amended by the department using the student voice feedback to base part of the changes we make, but ultimately to best suit our teaching and the students' learning. Students are assessed and monitored using the new grading system at the end of each term based on a reading and writing assessment and are working towards a challenging, personal target grade.

At KS4 all pupils follow the AQA syllabus and are all entered for the new, reformed specification for English Language and English Literature examinations. KS4 have monthly assessments reports which are monitored across the school and there are mock exams scheduled at the end of Year 10 and twice in Year 11.

Resources

The department currently teach in a suite of six, new, dedicated teaching rooms, which are spacious and equipped with a PC, projector, whiteboard, screen, interactive write-pad and ample storage space. Additionally, there is a suite of computers available in the communal area in the English corridor for extra resources and there are two additional trolleys which contain 20 laptops in each trolley to be able to book for lessons and which belong to the department. Staff are encouraged to use ICT in every lesson and to work/move with the new technologies of the time, as we are a maths and IT specialist college. The department also makes use of interactive software, but staff contribute greatly themselves, by creating their own, imaginative ICT resources and placing them in the staff shared area where they are easily accessible to all.

The department has a range of up-to-date materials ranging from a complete stock of new texts to meet the demands of the new, innovative and challenging schemes of work at KS3 to Hodder's Dynamic Learning Software to help with planning and teaching time at KS4. Schemes of work are 'ready to use' electronically, including power points, which are stored on the school network.

Ultimately the aim of the team is to provide the pupils here at Holy Family with the best learning opportunities in the safest environment with teachers who are just as excited to teach English, as they are to learn about the subject, so we hope the successful candidate will be just as dedicated to this positive ethos our department is renowned for at Holy Family RC & CE College.

Mrs K Stokes
Lead Practitioner of English