The English Department

There are currently nine full-time English specialists. A collaborative approach to forming policy and sharing good practice is developed at department meetings which are usually held fortnightly - as indicated in the school calendar and last about an hour. The department is housed in a suite of nine adjacent classrooms with an English department office and resources centre forming the central focus of the department. The department has a large regularly updated book stock. A resources assistant works with the department for 9 hours each week to enable the development of schemes of work and associated resources. This resources area houses specialist equipment; laminators; guillotine; audio recording equipment; digital stills and video cameras. In addition, a comprehensive range of stationary materials are located here.

General equipment available in all English rooms include an interactive whiteboard, filing cabinets and cupboard space for the storage of books and other resources. ICT resources-located in one of the English rooms- include thirty two PCs with access to the school intranet as well as 2 laser printers. At KS3 there is at least one scheme of work for each year group which involves use of one of the networked computer rooms, usually with technician help on hand. The department works in close conjunction with the SENCO and the Librarian.

The English Syllabus at KS3 is designed to meet the requirements of the revised National Curriculum. The department teaches GCSE AQA English Language and Literature at KS4 while at A level, the AQA B Literature specification is followed.

All members of the department teach classes at KS3 and KS4 while A Level teaching is shared dependent on experience and within timetabling restraints.