

# MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

## ENGLISH FACULTY

This successful, experienced and innovative faculty comprises eight full-time and two part-time specialist English teachers. It is based in a suite of eight rooms adjacent to the school Library. Rooms contain Data Projectors, DVD and Video players. A bookable ICT area is also available in the Library. There are two fixed Interactive Whiteboards.

In Year 7, students are taught in mixed ability Tutor Groups. From Year 8 to 11 they are placed in sets, allowing us to target students' individual needs more precisely and to provide a more focused working environment for each ability level. Where appropriate, students are supported in class by Learning Support Assistants. To encourage flexibility, setting is reviewed at the October half-term, and, in Years 8 and 9, in June also.

During Key Stage 3, Schemes of Learning incorporate the National Literacy Framework. Teaching strategies are designed to prepare our students for the Year 9 English Assessment and to lay the foundations for Key Stage 4. During Key Stage 3 we work in collaboration with other subjects to deliver cross-curricular projects. Of particular note is our Year 7 Frankenstein project in Year 7 in collaboration with Drama, Music and Art.

At Key Stage 4 the new AQA English Language and English Literature GCSE specifications will be taught.

At AS & A2 level, we currently offer AQA English Literature and AQA English Language and Literature.

The main emphases of our teaching are the development of language as the most important communication skill and the development of the individual, through the reading of literature and creative writing. At Key Stage 3 Media Studies is integrated into the teaching of English and Literature. Drama is taught separately by specialists.

One of the major areas for development throughout the school this academic year is improving literacy, especially for boys, and developing greater student independence in their learning. We are engaged in continuing to raise aspirations and achievements for our able students; targeting achievement of 8 and 9 at GCSE and A Level.

There are opportunities to contribute to extra-curricular activities and other aspects of school life. Members of the faculty may be involved through drama, major productions, public speaking, and theatre trips.

Members of the faculty are expected to teach across the range of age and ability and to play a full part in all aspects of faculty work. All members of the faculty are encouraged to pursue their particular interests and contribute to the further development of the faculty.