



MILLTHORPE SCHOOL

Teacher of English

We are looking to appoint a first rate energetic and innovative classroom teacher, who is able to teach English across the age and ability range. You will join a dedicated team and contribute to the continued development of this successful department. High quality learning in English is essential in our journey to becoming an outstanding school.

We currently teach GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. Our English GCSE results for 2018 were 74% and 82% G4 and above for Language and Literature respectively, including 27% achieving G7 or above in English Language and 26% in Literature. Our most recent GCSE results place the Department in the top 20% nationally.

Welcome to the English Department

The English Department aims for all our students to acquire a lasting appreciation of the subject within the framework of academic rigour. Consequently, both staff and students are encouraged to have high expectations, which are reflected in the quality of the work produced. Students develop a range of language skills and to gain a love and enjoyment of a wide range of literature and media. Currently, popular areas for study in the Department include homelessness; local ghost stories; dystopian fiction; 'Frankenstein'; Shakespeare (from 'Much Ado About Nothing', through 'The Merchant of Venice' to 'Macbeth'); and a whole range of poetry.

The Department is staffed by ten teachers, many with extensive experience, and a small number who have responsibilities in other areas. All classrooms have a Smartboard and teachers have access to other media equipment, such as digital cameras. The Department functions very much as a team with strong formal and informal support for new colleagues and an ongoing concern for staff development. Ideas and resources are shared and co-operation is a key element in the Department's approach to work. It is recognised that individual teachers have particular areas of expertise within the broad scope of English and, therefore, the seeking out and sharing of that expertise is seen as good practice and encouraged.

At Key Stage 3, students receive eight one hour lessons in each two week timetable in Year 7 and seven one hour lessons in Years 8 and 9. We engage students in learning through a range of teaching methods. In addition, our schemes of work consist of a variety of topics and texts which enable students to develop and enhance their skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. In each year, students complete formative assessments which consolidate a range of skills, specifically targeting those required for the new GCSE syllabus; students are actively encouraged to take responsibility for their attainment and progress by acting upon the detailed targets and feedback generated by these assessments.

At Key Stage 4, students are taught English in eight, one hour lessons per two week timetable. All our students will complete two GCSEs from the AQA exam board - English Language and English Literature. While the nature of the assessment of these has undergone considerable change at national level, the Department has been agile in its response and will continue to be so.

In Literature, students study a combination of modern prose and drama, choosing from texts such as *An Inspector Calls* by J B Priestley, *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell and an anthology of short stories. They will also have the opportunity to study a nineteenth-century novel and a Shakespeare play in its entirety; staff are actively encouraged to support this study in the context of film adaptations and modern performance. An entire unit will examine poetry by a wide range of authors.

The Department offers a range of extra-curricular activities for students, including author visits and theatre trips. In recent years, GCSE students have benefitted from attending the annual Poetry Live conferences and have been fortunate enough to gain an insight into English at A level by participating in workshops at York University. We also work closely with the school's well-stocked Library. Our proactive Library Manager, who liaises excellently with the Department, is proud of keeping up-to-date with new titles and bestsellers. Our Year 7 and 8 Library lessons promote reading for pleasure and all students in the school are encouraged to develop their creativity by joining the Writing Club and the increasingly popular reading and film club, Fiction Addiction. Reading and reviewing a range of books for the children's book club, Red House, has proved particularly rewarding for our students and provided them with a real audience for their writing.

Teacher of English Post

The post will provide an opportunity for a well-qualified and dynamic teacher to join a successful English Department that is determined to excel, and to help the school in its journey from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'.

The successful candidate must be a highly effective and reflective teacher, who continually strives to improve their practice in collaboration with colleagues; they must be committed to ensuring the highest standards of literacy for our young people to support their future learning and adult life.

December 2018