



The English Department

Accommodation

English is taught in a suite of adjacent rooms which occupy the top and first floor of the East Block of the School, where there are specialist teaching rooms. The Department has shared access to the computer network.

The English Department has amongst its resources data projectors and interactive whiteboards in all classrooms, two televisions, DVD/video players. Resources are reviewed and evaluated regularly, purchasing new texts, subscribing to online resource platforms and keeping abreast of recent publications.

Personnel

The Department comprises the equivalent of thirteen staff: ten full-time teachers, two part-time teachers, who are specialists in their field and teach throughout the full Years 7 to 13 age and ability range, plus HLTA's. Every member of the English Department has the opportunity to teach in the Sixth Form.

Academic Structure

The Department's leadership is structured into three main areas: a Director of Achievement, a Subject Leader, a 100% Achievement Coordinator/Second i/c (currently responsible for curriculum and assessment) a 100% Achievement Coordinator (responsible for data and intervention).

Occasionally, the roles are changed to give members of staff the opportunity to develop professionally.

Organisation of Classes

Students are taught in a mixture of mixed ability sets. The organisation of classes falls to the Subject Leader in consultation with 100% Achievement Coordinators.

SEN

It is the responsibility of all subject teachers to differentiate within their teaching plans, for children of all abilities. Additional assistance for children with Special Educational Needs comes from classroom assistants whose time is given to classes which usually contain statemented children.

The Curriculum

Key Stage Three

The curriculum focuses on units of work, each with its own skills or text area, which, over the course of a year, enables each child to visit the main elements of a balanced curriculum. The units adopt a thematic approach to learning, with topics such as Heroes and Villains, The Supernatural, Utopia/Dystopia and Adventure.

We pride ourselves on challenging and stimulating all of our students, providing them with the foundations needed to achieve success at GCSE and the literacy skills to excel in the future.

Key Stage Four and Five

In Year 11, students are entered for Eduqas English Language GCSE and Eduqas English Literature GCSE.

English Language and Literature is a popular subject in the Sixth Form - we have previously attracted up to forty students, and they are entered for the AQA A Level specifications. Students returning to improve their GCSE qualification in English have the opportunity re-take their English GCSE.

Other Opportunities

Many extra-curricular and more-curricular opportunities are provided by the department, including book clubs, film clubs, BBC News Report, coursework catch-up, booster sessions, and many more.

A number of theatre visits take place annually and staff have organised visits to see set texts performed in Nottingham, Birmingham, Stratford-upon-Avon and London. The department has also attended workshops and conferences on specific A Level modules.

We also provide a number of enrichment opportunities for students, which in the past have included a project with the RSC, pantomime trips, and author days.