

Hayesfield Girls' School and Mixed Sixth Form

The English Faculty

The English Faculty at Hayesfield Girls' School and Mixed Sixth Form consists of nine experienced and very committed members of staff who teach across the full ability and age range. We have very high expectations of our students and of each other, and by working closely together we enjoy excellent results at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.

The English Faculty was inspected in September 2014 as part of the school quality assurance process and was described as 'Outstanding' in all areas. This grading recognised the high standards and commitment of the team to achieving the highest standard of education for all our students. As an indication of this, in 2014 our KS4 English progress results were the highest of all state schools in the Bath area and our KS5 Literature results were significantly beyond expected attainment compared with similar schools. We celebrated wonderful A Level Literature in the Summer of 2016 and our Literature classes continue to grow and are a very popular choice.

The new appointment would be entering a department, committed to further building on our achievements and skills to offer a stimulating and highly successful English provision for all our Students. *Further details of our Ofsted inspection reports and results data are available on our website.*

KS3

At Key Stage 3 students are taught in streamed ability sets with regular monitoring and assessment using a bespoke version of APP to ensure progress and linking and moving on from skills taught at KS2. In 2014 our objective was to put in place year 7,8 and 9 intervention strategies which have proved extremely successful in rapidly accelerating the learning of weaker students and so this continues and where needed interventions are also put in place at KS4 and 5 to aid the success of our students.

Although there is a clear Programme of Study, based around progression through the English Learning Objectives, we encourage creative teaching that promotes student engagement and develops independent learning skills. Every teacher in the Faculty is expected to be committed to achieving 'Outstanding' teaching and learning and to be continually enhancing his or her classroom practice and then sharing their skills in mentoring colleagues and/or teacher trainees from Bristol (UWE) and Bath Spa.

In addition to these Programmes of Study, a strong focus is placed on enriching our students' experience of English through a wide variety of extra-curricular activities such as theatre visits, poetry and writing workshops, reading groups including Battle of the Books, Centurion and Carnegie, performances by touring companies, debate, Churchill public speaking and poetry including Poetry by Heart and a creative spoken word project Paper Nations in collaboration with Bath Literature. Any new member to the team would be expected to support these activities as well as develop activities of his or her own.

In year 9 the key word is 'challenge' and so students start their Literature GCSE. This means students are assessed against GCSE standards and are taught more challenging texts in preparation for their Literature exams which are taken in the summer exam season in Year 10.

KS4

At Key Stage 4 all students are set by ability, and all follow the **AQA English Language and Literature GCSE courses**. Our experience in developing and delivering the new curriculum from 2015 has been extremely positive thus far and we are continually striving to resource the new texts and elements of the four exams. We enjoy outstanding results at KS4 and 5 and any teacher entering the team would be expected to maintain those high standards and expectations of achievement. High results are the consequence of hard work from the students and team but in particular, high expectations of what can be achieved and a no-excuses attitude to progress for all our girls.

- **2013:** 82% **A-C** grades for English with 96% **A-C** for Literature.
- 3 levels of progress 79%; 4 levels of progress 41%
- **2014:** 83% **A-C** grades for English with 97% **A-C** for Literature
- 3 levels of progress 85%; 4 levels of progress 52%
- **2015:** 81.25% **A*-C** grades for English with 97% **A*-C** for Literature
- 3 levels of progress 82%; 4 levels of progress 45%
- **2015:** 72.4% **A*-C** grades for Media with 100% **A*-G**
- 3 levels of progress 83%; 4 levels of progress 44%
- **2016:** 88% **A*-C** grades for English with 95% **A*-C** for Literature
- 3 levels of progress 89%; 4 levels of progress 68%

KS5

At Key Stage 5 we offer A Levels in English Literature, English Language and Media. These are very popular courses with high uptake and retention rates from our own students and those from outside of the school. As a faculty we are keen to utilise and develop the expertise of our colleagues and will aim to give A-level teaching opportunities to all staff where the timetable and experience permits.

- **2013:** 63% **A*-B** grade English Literature 43% with **A*-B** grade English Language
- **2014:** 82% **A*-B** grade English Literature 45% with **A*-B** grade English Language
- **2015:** 64% **A*-B** grade English Literature 40% with **A*-B** grade English Language
- **2016:** 82% **A*-B** grade English Literature 13% with **A*-B** grade English Language

A full breakdown of exam results is available on the School website.

Differentiation

There is a wide spread ability range throughout Key Stage 3 and 4 which offers teachers a rich and varied teaching experience. For example, in our current Year 7 we have a large number of extremely able pupils but also some with low reading ages undertaking focused literacy recovery. We aim to offer a curriculum suited to each student's need and staff are expected to be able to teach, challenge and progress students of all abilities. In 2012 we put in place a combined curriculum with the Learning Support department to ensure rapid literacy recovery for our lower ability students in years 7 and 8 and this has proved very successful. Since then we have widened this curriculum to offer a more expansive and targeted provision.

Monitoring Pupil Progress and intervention

Our close and regular monitoring of student attainment and progress allows us to identify those students who, for whatever reason, are failing to achieve their Target Grades or other progress indicators and offer a range of suitable and supportive intervention strategies.

Hayesfield English Faculty believes that every child should take some responsibility for their own learning and progress and actively seeks opportunities to include and develop opportunities for AFL activities in English lessons including peer and self-assessment which is key to teaching and learning at Hayesfield. We set challenging targets and deadlines, which encourage students to manage their own work and to be accountable for poor or non-completion of work.

Monitoring of marking and assessment takes place by work sample conducted at set points during the year where all teachers are invited to attend. Teachers carefully monitor all progress of their classes and current progress results are discussed with the Head teacher in fortnightly meetings.

ICT

All members of the faculty use ICT to develop skills, understanding and to broaden their students' learning experience. The English Faculty aims to refresh continually its skills base and to introduce high quality ICT resources to students. We are lucky enough to have 2 iboards within the faculty and we are continually gaining knowledge on how best to use this resource.

English Faculty Teaching Staff

The English Faculty's greatest resource is the quality and experience of its team. We are very keen to welcome someone into the Faculty who will work confidently alongside us to develop and build on the reputation and achievements that have been made. We would welcome someone with drive and enthusiasm.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| • Lizzie Twohigg | Head of Faculty |
| • Fran Foster | KS3 Coordinator (maternity leave) |
| • Lyndsay Davies | Teacher of English/Media |
| • Lorraine Beasley | Teacher of English and Deputy Head of School |
| • Duncan Powell | Teacher of English and Assistant Headteacher |
| • Abigail Pallett-Smith | Teacher of English and Head of House and PP Champion |
| • Fran Bryden | Teacher of English, Whole School Gifted and Talent Coordinator |
| • Susanna Mountcastle | Teacher of English |
| • Claire Woolger | Teacher of English |
| • Ben Hague | Teacher of English (maternity cover) |

March 2017