

CHIPPING NORTON SCHOOL

English Department



Our department

The English department at CNS is a vibrant, communicative and enthusiastic group of six teachers with a dedicated HLTA and Admin Assistant. Collaboration is at the heart of the department, and all schemes of work for all Key Stages are well resourced and shared centrally. We meet weekly to discuss teaching and learning, with a focus on further improving subject knowledge, assessment, and pupil progress. The department runs a successful creative writing extra-curricular club, and leads students in both public speaking and debating.

Our Ethos

We aim to give our students the very best experience of English and this is reflected in the high expectations that permeate everything that we do. In the most recent Ofsted Inspection, it was noted that "in English pupils read and analyse a wide range of challenging texts, responding to them with insight and sensitivity. Pupils' writing is of a high quality." Our goal for all our students is that they experience success through hard work and struggle, praise and support.

Our Curriculum

Our KS3 curriculum is academic and challenging, laying secure foundations for the demands of the new GCSEs. Schemes of work are designed around classic literature texts, with opportunities planned in for creative work and analysis of non-fiction. Students are taught in mixed ability groups in Years 7, 8 and 9, with one English Extend group in each year group. The English Extend classes address the learning needs of those students with a global delay to their learning whilst differentiation is used to ensure pace and challenge across the rest of KS3. There is a strong focus on reading within the department, and all KS3 lessons begin with 10mins of silent reading. Pupils across KS3 take part in the Accelerated Reader scheme to track and encourage their independent reading. With this focus we aim to create highly-literate readers in KS3, and a life-long love of reading.

High expectations of engagement, behaviour and output pervade our mixed-ability teaching at KS4. The AQA syllabus is taught for both English Literature and Language. Both subjects are taught interleaved throughout KS4, with regular assessment points including participation in PiXL testing.

At A level the department follows the AQA syllabus for Literature and Language, and AQA Specification B is followed for Literature. We have consistently achieved good to outstanding ALPs grades in both of our A-Levels over the last four years. Examinations are taken at the end of the two year course, which allows flexibility and creativity in the curriculum. Enrichment in the 6th form is an important part of what we do, and regular trips to the theatre and lectures are run for students.

Examination Results

Examination Results 2017 in English			
GCSE	No. of Students	%9-7	%9-4
GCSE English Language	157	33	85%
GCSE English Literature	156	24	87%
A LEVEL	ALPS Score	%A*/A	%A*-E
A2 Language and Literature	3-4 (good)	30	100
A2 Literature	3-4 (good)	18	100



The Right Candidate

We seek an individual who will inspire in students a commitment to being the best writers they can be. You will be committed to securing the best possible outcomes for your students.

Informal visits to the school are welcome; please telephone to make an appointment to be shown around.