

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Harewood College's English Department is staffed by seven full-time staff who share well-resourced rooms. Each room has an interactive whiteboard, wi-fi internet and connection to the school network.Each colleague makes a significant contribution to the work of the department as a whole, and takes an active part in the development of schemes of work and resources. We hold regular department meetings and share good practice and ideas. The team is supportive towards each other and in its approach to the various needs of the students.We believe that it is important for teachers, as well as students, to have the scope to express their individuality in the classroom; at the same time we believe that all our students are entitled to expect that we will cover the whole curriculum in appropriate detail. As a department, we work from centralised schemes of work to ensure transparency and consistency for all of our students. Students are assessed formally every half term and sit examinations at the end of each academic year.

The range of ability of our students is very wide, and we do our best to ensure that students who need support of whatever kind are identified and assisted. Students are grouped by ability to ensure more able students are stretched, and comparatively weaker students are given the support and attention they need to guarantee excellent progress.

At GCSE, we enter students for AQA English Language and AQA English Literature. The English Department also delivers AQA GCSE Media Studies and has a suite of Apple iMacs and Macbooks.

For both Key Stages 3 and 4, the texts and schemes of work we study have been carefully chosen and written to motivate and challenge the boys as much as possible. We have regularly worked with outside agencies such as The Hip Hop Shakespeare Company to ensure that our provision to the students is engaging and relatable.

Throughout the school year we also run a series of competitions including a spelling bee, poetry competitions and a creative writing contest. In addition to this, we provide enrichment opportunities for our students to The Globe Theatre and The Mayflower Theatre as well as in-school workshops held by outside agencies such as local journalists, established poets and charitable organisations. We also enter the Rotary Club’s Public Speaking Competition and The Mayor’s Poetry Competition in addition to organising a range of family enrichment opportunities to encourage parents to become actively involved in their son’s education.