



## English Department Profile

Coloma has an outstanding English Department currently consisting of five full time teachers and two part-time teachers. Members of the department are passionate about their subject, keen to share good practice and are very supportive of one another. All full time teachers are expected to teach across the ability range up to and including A Level English Literature. The department is committed to developing subject knowledge and is a member of the Prince's Teaching Institute Schools Programme.

Most lessons are taught in five dedicated English rooms, all in proximity to the English office and the library. Each teaching room has an interactive whiteboard and display boards for pupils' work. A few Sixth Form lessons are taught in the separate Sixth Form block.

### Key Stage 3

All classes are taught in mixed ability groups and follow a varied and challenging curriculum which aims to expose students to their literary heritage (including texts from other cultures and in translation), developing their analytical skills as well as their ability to explore complex ideas and issues. While the ability to appreciate a writer's craft is vital, the aim is for students to enjoy the range of texts they explore together. Curiosity and a willingness to listen to different views is fostered as students are given opportunities to share their ideas in discussion. Technical accuracy is explicitly addressed as students develop their skill and confidence as writers.

### Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4, girls are set according to ability. All students sit AQA English Language and English Literature GCSE. Internal tests are set each half term and are marked by the class teacher. There are main school examinations at the end of year 10 and mock examinations in Year 11. The progress of each girl is monitored closely.

### Key Stage 5

A Level English Literature is a popular option and results are very pleasing with 100% of students passing in 2017, 73% gaining A\*-B. Recent opportunities for students have included a theatre trip for Year 12 students to see *Mrs Dalloway*, as well as a visit to a literary festival, Charleston Farmhouse and Monk's House in Sussex to support their work. A trip to Stratford is being planned to see Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*.