

Academic Coaching at Morpeth

We have successfully employed Academic Coaches for the last ten years. Their main role is to work with individual students and small groups, supporting them with their learning and challenging them to achieve at, or above, their target grades. We had an external review of the Academic Coaching programme a few years ago and have put into place the suggestions made by the external reviewer and the Academic Coaches; it is therefore a model which is responsive and evolving. The Academic Coaching programme has been highly successful at Morpeth and we have shared our model with other schools.

Last year we moved to a new coaching model of working with pupils for 30 minutes twice a week. Coaches work with Year 11 pupils for two 30 minutes slots on Tuesdays and Thursdays, within the school day, over a 6-week period. The students then attend sessions in groups before and after school. For the rest of the week, coaches work with pupils in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 10.

At Year 11, Maths coaches follow a scheme of work that focuses on specific topics such as Transformations, Constructions and Loci. The topics are relevant to whether Coaches are working with Year 11 pupils who will be entered for the foundation tier or the higher tier for their GCSE exam. Coaches also support pupils by going through practice GCSE exam questions in preparation for mock exams and the Maths GCSE exams. In Years 7, 8 and 10 there is a focus on Maths Mastery, allowing students to further develop the skills gained in maths lessons.

At Key Stage Four, English coaches primarily focus on developing students' writing skills for a range of purposes and audiences. Coaches are also involved in developing students' resilience when reading and interpreting unseen or more challenging texts. We provide a scaffold to support the student however the model also ensures that they are actively involved in their learning: leading the discussion, reflecting and evaluating their work and applying the skills independently both at home and in their English lessons.

At Key Stage Three there is a focus on developing students' reading skills, sharing short stories in small groups that engage and challenge their way of thinking. Similarly to Key Stage Four, there is a focus on discussion-based, student-led learning.

The Maths and English intervention teachers work closely with the Academic coaches to guide them on the schemes of work to be followed.

In September 2018, we will have a team of 6 members of staff in the Academic Coaching team. There are 2 positions of responsibility within the team, Intervention teacher in Maths and Intervention teacher in English. Academic Coaches predominantly work on a 1:1 basis with Key stage three and Key Stage Four pupils in a dedicated teaching space.

Successful candidates will work **term time only** (35 hours a week) **plus three weeks** (in order to provide additional revision opportunities for students in the holidays and on Saturdays).