

Weald School English Department

Introduction

The English department is an experienced and co-operative team. We value each others' industry, energy and talent and we foster these qualities in our students. We have high expectations and create a working environment in our classrooms where fulfilling one's potential is the norm. At the centre of our work is a commitment to highly effective teaching and learning which leads to outstanding progress and attainment.

Staff and Accommodation

The department comprises twelve full time and four part time teachers. Departmental responsibilities are shared between the Director of English, and three other post holders responsible for each of the key stages. Most staff teach across the full ability and age range. Some of the team have responsibilities outside the subject area. Others take responsibility within the department beyond their classroom teaching.

We are housed in a suite of well-equipped rooms on two floors with a dedicated English department staffroom and departmental store cupboard. ICT facilities include a Promethean interactive whiteboard or SMART board in each English classroom, two purpose-built English ICT suites and a class set of chromebooks which can be booked for use with English classes. We work closely with the school's Learning Resources Centre which has its own ICT facilities and there are a number of other computer rooms available around the school.

Curriculum

English is taught in top sets and mixed-middle ability classes from Years 7 to 11. The English department delivers a balanced, stimulating and challenging curriculum. We seek to engage students' interests, offering them work which they can relate to and enjoy whilst mastering the skills of the subject. We aim to provide opportunities for students to develop as competent users of the written and spoken word and responsive readers. Encouraging reading for pleasure is a central commitment of our team. We also strive towards technical accuracy and fluency for all students. We are dedicated to achieving high standards for students of all abilities.

All Key Stage 4 classes follow an integrated programme leading to GCSE certification in both English Language and Literature. Pupils begin Key Stage 4 in Year 9, following a dynamic programme of study which enables them to make the transition from KS3 to KS4. Since September 2015 we have followed the OCR specifications. The department offers A Levels in English Language, English Literature and Media Studies.

Extra-Curricular

The department plays a full and distinctive role in the life of the school and the wider community. We encourage students to enjoy the artistic and creative dimensions of our subject. Thus we offer a range of visits to the theatre, enrichment opportunities in school and A Level enrichment excursions. We promote reading by contributing to annual book-based events in the Library Resource Centre and annually celebrate Weald Book Week. The Weald Book Award has grown steadily in scope and popularity with nominees regularly attending the award ceremony. Links to primary schools have been supported by our annual Year 8 project in which students create their own children's books for a real audience. In addition we organise regular events in school such as visiting authors, performances by visiting Shakespeare theatre companies, the Rotary Public Speaking and Creative Writing competition, BBC School Report and Shakespeare By Heart.

Examination Results

	English Language
Year	GCSE A*-C/ 9-4
2017	75%
2018	79%
2019	75%

	English Literature
	GCSE A*-C/9-4
	79%
	75%
	74%

	English Language	
Year	A Level A*-C	A*-E
2017	100%	100%
2018	81%	100%
2019	100%	100%

	English Literature	
	A Level A*-C	A*-E
	100%	100%
	100%	100%
	100%	91%

Teacher of English

The Post

The position is a full time, or part time, permanent post in the English Department from September 2020 and would suit an NQT or experienced teacher. There will be the opportunity to teach across the age and ability range up to GCSE with A Level available to a suitably qualified candidate. The ability to teach Media Studies would be desirable but not essential.

Person Specification

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and hard-working teacher who is able to make a real contribution to the work of the department. The successful candidate will:

- A well-qualified teacher of English who can inspire and engage young people (QTS is essential)
- The ability to teach English at KS3 and KS4
- The ability to teach KS5 desirable but not essential
- A commitment to high standards of achievement with a proven track record of excellent results
- The ability to motivate students and an innovative approach to classroom practice
- A collaborative approach to teamwork, including willingness to contribute to departmental schemes of work and the spreading of good practice
- Excellent organisational and IT skills
- A passion for excellence and for the subject
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Willingness to be a form tutor, including the delivery of PSHE

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to pre-employment checks including an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.