HEART OF ENGLAND
Creating Futures

HEART OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Our Philosophy

We are commitment to offering a broad, varied and relevant curriculum which has at its heart high quality literature. Equally, we foster mastery of the essential skills which form the bedrock of future success. Our new KS3 curriculum has challenge and rigour so that it serves the requirements of the new GCSE exams, builds on the children's KS2 grammar experience and has enough space to revisit skills to truly fill any gaps in the students' knowledge.

Accommodation

The English department has 8 specialist classrooms and an additional A Level teaching room in the A Level block. All classrooms are resourced with projectors and key texts.

Teaching Staff

There are a dozen teachers in the department and they are all good eggs. They have a strong identity as a team, are proud of what they enable their students to achieve and want their students to be successful. Whilst many are experienced and know what they like they are above all wise and, as the entire re-working of every key stage this year has proved, are amenable to change. As far as systems and structures go there are four TLR holders in the department, an overall head of department and key stage leaders of 3, 4 and 5. The department regularly visit each other's lessons and work together to refine the curriculum offer. They are a team in all of the best ways.

Courses

In Year 7 students are taught in mixed ability groups for six hours per fortnight where they access a range of texts, skills and knowledge through the new curriculum. In Years 8 and 9, the students are in ability sets and also have 6 lessons a fortnight. The KS3 curriculum allows for sufficient breathing space to revisit previously covered material and to ensure there is time to fill in any gaps in understanding.

All new KS4 students are taught the new AQA specification, have 8 lessons a fortnight and are in ability sets.

At KS5 there is the opportunity to teach Year 12 and 13. Our English Literature students follow the AQAB syllabus and our English Language students follow the AQA course.