**THE STREETLY ACADEMY**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**Staff**

The department consists of ten full-time and five part-time English specialists led by the Head of English, the 2nd in English and further key stage post holders.  For the last five years we have also employed two English academic coaches, who have worked with students to support progress.  A number of these coaches have progressed to teaching places here at The Streetly Academy and we are proud to support the training and development of student teachers as part of our work.

Teamwork and shared expectations are essential elements in the department since it is important for students to experience consistency throughout their school career.  Individuality is embraced and we pride ourselves on creating schemes of work that are inspiring and engaging.  Our resources have been used at a national level and members of the department are encouraged, within or outside working parties, to contribute ideas or work on their own initiative, to develop their area of interest and expand their teaching repertoire through CPD.  Responsive teaching is at the heart of all that we do.

**Resources**

The department is housed in a purpose-built block.  The facilities are excellent and greatly enhance the working atmosphere.  There are twelve English classrooms.  Most rooms have access to a large store room and there is also an English Department office and a library.  All rooms have projectors. Every member of staff is provided with a Chromebook.  All our   students are issued with Chromebooks.

Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 Co-ordinators administer stock, planning and provision.  Curriculum planning and organisation is reviewed annually on a key stage basis to fit in with National Curriculum and scheme of work requirements.  All schemes of work are written by members of the department and have links to whole school Teaching and Learning developments.

The school uses Google Classroom and Hangouts very effectively.

**Key Stage 3**

Students have English lessons nine periods a fortnight across a two week timetable.

Units of work which are continually evolving to ensure a knowledge rich curriculum; ensure that they are building on KS2 expectations; are challenging and supportive for all and ensure coverage of the National Curriculum for Key Stage 3.  The units are not intended to be totally prescriptive nor to constitute all the learning experience of Years 7 to 9, but rather to provide a secure basis from which staff will develop differentiated lessons matched to the needs of their teaching group. However, these units guarantee that every student has received his/her entitlement in preparation for GCSE whilst developing and enriching the lives of our students..

Our coaches deliver a programme of Lexia, for students coming into Streetly with below average reading ages, and offer support/booster opportunities across all key stages.

Direct Instruction is initially offered to students where deemed necessary.

**Key Stage 4**

In Years 10 and 11 students are taught for  8/9 x 1 hour periods over a two week timetable. All KS4 students follow the AQA English Language course and almost all students follow the AQA English Literature course.  Students at Key Stage 4 are regrouped according to a policy of setting by target.  Those at the lower end of the ability scale are taught in slightly smaller groups.

**Key Stage 5**

English Language and English Literature are all taught at Key Stage 5 by a team of English experts.

**The English Department and Special Educational Needs Department (SEND)**

The SEN department offers close liaison and guidance.  Students are targeted and monitored, and the SEND staff are available for consultation.  Classroom support is negotiated for groups at the lower end of the ability range.

**Oral Skills**

Speech is primary and writing is derived from it.  We acknowledge the importance of oral skills and as well as building experiences into our lessons, we have completed training and INSET on the use of effective questioning techniques and fabricate into SOW opportunities for oral and group work.

**Enrichment Activities**

The department offers a range of enrichment activities, including theatre trips and enrichment lectures. We organise Master classes and encourage all teachers to participate in these throughout the year.

**Developments**

The Streetly Academy is a thriving and popular school where the professional development of staff is high priority.

The English Department is seen as a vital leader in raising teaching and learning across the school.  In our department, we set ourselves high expectations and the English Teaching Hub is a professional learning environment where the ethos is positive and student aspirations play an important role in our teaching.

We are proud of our achievements so far and passionate about our subject, and this is reflected in students’ attitudes towards the English Department.  We are a great team and nurture and support all new members.

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