



Teacher of English

THE TEAM:

Students enjoy English at Thirsk School and their engagement is at the heart of our mission as a Department. We have high expectations of our students but also of ourselves: we work hard to ensure that our lessons are interesting, relevant and creative. We believe we nurture a love of literature and language in our students and all of us are keen to demonstrate our passion for our subject.

We are a team of seven specialist English teachers and we have two colleagues who teach English as their second subject. We have a strong team spirit, are genuinely collaborative and would welcome the freshness and creative input that we hope a new colleague would bring. Although an established and experienced team, we don't stand still and try to evaluate what we do in order to keep developing as practitioners; it would be important to us that a new colleague also developed their professional skills and we would hope that opportunities for extra departmental responsibility would open up in the future.

FACILITIES:

The Department occupies a suite of rooms adjoining each other. It also has a large stock room and an office for all colleagues. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard and the sharing of resources is facilitated by the availability of common files on the school's network.

CURRICULUM:

In Years 7-11, students are mainly setted based on prior attainment, although we are currently trialling more flexible mixed ability approaches in Years 7 and 8. Various forms of data enable accurate setting; where possible, additional staffing has been employed to support the particular needs of children. We are currently undertaking a review of the KS3 curriculum in order to ensure progression for our students, share best practice and deliver consistency across teachers. The Department enjoys a good track record of success at all key stages. In KS4, all students will study both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. We offer both English Literature and English Language at A Level and both are always popular choices. Both KS4 and KS5 courses follow AQA syllabuses.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Wherever possible, the Department will enhance the students' experiences by participating in activities beyond the classroom. In the past, these have included attending 'Poetry Live' lectures, A Level lectures and theatrical productions in various locations. The



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Debating Club is popular and The Falcon newspaper is produced by a team of cub reporters supported by a member of the Department. A new KS4 creative writing club is proving popular with our Year 10 and 11 students currently.

TOGETHERNESS HONESTY INCLUSIVITY RESPECT SUPPORT KINDNESS

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