

Weald School English Department

Introduction

The English department is an experienced and co-operative team. We value each other's 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 set of iPads 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 writing through a fortnightly creative writing group. The Weald Book Award has grown steadily in scope and popularity and three of the six nominees attended last year's award ceremony in March 2017. 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
2014	76%
2015	80%
2016	81%
2017	75%

	English Literature
Year	GCSE A*-C
2014	84%
2015	80%
2016	75%
2017	79%

	English Language	
Year	A Level A*-C	A*-E
2014	100%	100%
2015	80%	96%
2016	100%	100%
2017	100%	100%

	English Literature	
Year	A Level A*-C	A*-E
2014	92%	100%
2015	82%	100%
2016	100%	100%
2017	100%	100%

Teacher of English

The Post

The post is a full time or part time, permanent post in the English Department from September 2017 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 English Language, Literature or Media Studies at A Level would be an advantage.

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.

- Well qualified (with Qualified Teacher Status) and enthusiastic teacher of English
- Excellent classroom practitioner with an interest in research and professional development
- An ability to teach English Language and English Literature to GCSE across the ability range
- An ability to offer A Level would also be highly desirable
- Commitment to high standards of achievement
- Commitment to teamwork
- Good interpersonal skills
- ICT literate
- Willingness to be a form tutor

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and to equality of opportunity. Enhanced DBS clearance is required for all successful applicants