



Colyton
Grammar
School

Details of the post of

TEACHER OF ENGLISH (FULL TIME, PERMANENT)

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2021



THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOKLET IS TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND DETAILS
OF THE POST TOGETHER WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL.

*This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and
expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*



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EX24 6HN

Registered in England and Wales - Number 7445493

The School

Ethos & Values

Colyton Grammar School is one of the country's leading co-educational selective schools. We challenge our students and staff to achieve beyond what they might have thought possible, supporting them to do so with a culture of growth, collaboration and kindness.

The school is one of only a small number of secondary schools to have been judged Outstanding in 5 successive inspections, most recently in March 2020, and is consistently amongst the top 10% of schools nationally for attainment, and for the past two years has been ranked amongst the top 1% for progress at GCSE.

However, examination outcomes form just a part of the school's aspiration for our students. We aim to empower them to develop as individuals through a very broad range of experiences and achievements, laying the strongest foundations for happiness and success throughout their lives. We develop independent learners who are motivated by intellectual satisfaction and a sense of service to others, as much as by academic achievement.

We recognise the high ability of our students and are highly aspirational on their behalf. Our curriculum and teaching is based on the principle of 'high challenge; high support': we strive to ensure students are stretched to develop to their full potential, whilst supporting every student to help them rise to this challenge.

Central to our philosophy is the importance of classroom relationships, which are based on mutual trust and respect, leading to a supportive, caring learning environment, and creating the conditions for exceptional teaching and learning. Staff have exceptional subject knowledge and students are inspired by their enthusiasm, within and beyond the curriculum. The school provides a rich array of co-curricular opportunities, which develop life-long skills and interests, as well as social and personal skills.

Staff create learning opportunities which are interesting and engaging. Staff commitment is excellent, reflecting a rewarding teaching situation, and there is a strong collegiate atmosphere, based in a sense of community, collaboration and mutual support.

The school prides itself on being at the cutting edge of pedagogical research and development and is a leading figure working to support other schools in the area. We place great emphasis on the importance of teachers' professional growth. Our professional development programme, described as a model of good practice by Ofsted, is tied to our core belief that we work hard, with humility, so that we and others can grow as people, professionals and scholars. To support this we provide a generous, bespoke programme of professional learning opportunities for staff which is underpinned by a philosophy of evidence-based learning. Through a combination of courses, coaching, partnership school links, research and collaboration, teachers can take control of their own professional development, selecting areas of need or expertise, and experimenting with classroom practice to give clear benefit to students. A supportive, reflective and outward-looking approach ensures that we can all be even greater, with no limits on what we can achieve.

The School

Background

- The school was founded in 1546 by the Feoffees of Colyton, and moved to its present site in 1929.
- The school is served by a wide rural area with students being drawn from more than 50 primary schools. There are five forms of entry. Students arriving at Colyton have typically achieved good Level 5 or better in primary school.
- The Lower Years Programme in Years 7 & 8 develops in students the foundational knowledge, the values and the habits of learning required for future success.
- During the Middle Years Programme in Years 9, 10 & 11 which encompasses eleven GCSEs alongside a range of additional components in the form of enrichment.
- Almost students all continue into the Sixth Form, where they either study four A-Levels, or three A- Levels alongside the Extended Project. Typically about 98% continue on to university with 15% gaining Oxbridge places. Students also complete a wide range of co-curricular, leadership and service opportunities as part of the Colyton Baccalaureate qualification.
- The school occupies an exceptionally attractive site. In the last decade there has been significant capital development in all areas of the school including Computer Science, Science Labs and a student wellbeing centre.
- In addition, the school has invested heavily in a highly successful digital learning strategy. All students and staff are provided with their own devices and a blended learning approach is fully established.
- The school has a national reputation for its work with more able students and in especially with its work with more able disadvantaged students.
- Details of the last Ofsted report are available on the school website: www.colytongrammar.devon.sch.uk

The Local Area

The school is situated in the village of Colyford in East Devon, part of the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and just one mile from the Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO world heritage site. The school draws its students from a wide area, stretching across East Devon, Somerset and Dorset. Many staff live in the picturesque towns and villages nearby, including the popular coastal resort of Lyme Regis; others commute from Taunton and Exeter, while the nearby towns of Sidmouth, Honiton and Axminster provide excellent gateways to country, coast and town.

There is a unanimous feeling among staff that the area is a wonderful place to bring up children.



TEACHER OF ENGLISH
(Full time, Permanent)
Required for September 2021

The successful candidate will contribute to teaching English to GCSE, and potentially to A-Level.

The post would suit an NQT, or a teacher seeking to broaden their experience. The school is committed to providing appropriate support and encouragement to the successful candidate, whatever their level of experience.

The successful candidate will be a motivational classroom practitioner who possesses a palpable enthusiasm for the subject. He or she will be excited by the opportunity to teach highly able students, and to contribute to a school culture of high aspiration and growth.

The candidate should have:

- Confident subject knowledge of English Language and Literature, and its role in the 21st curriculum
- Excellent teaching skills, with the desire to continually and reflect and develop professionally
- A genuine interest in young people and their personal growth
- A commitment to challenging and supporting students to help them to achieve beyond what they think possible
- The desire to contribute to a culture of whole school collaboration and development
- An appreciation of, and commitment to, the broader life of the school community

SELECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Closing Date: Monday 1 March 2021

Interviews: w/c Monday 8 March via Microsoft Teams

An application should be made via
<https://www.tes.com/jobs/employer/colyton-grammar-school-1035952>

Candidates are welcome to ring the Headteacher to discuss the post informally.

The English Department

The English Department seeks to foster a deep-rooted love of reading, language and performance in its students, encouraging them to articulate complex ideas with confidence and style, both orally and in writing. We want our students to be critical readers, not only of literary texts, but of the world around them. We want to give them the ability to contribute positively to that world by speaking and writing with impact.

The department has an outstanding record of examination success: across the years 2017-2020, Colyton Grammar School has the highest average GCSE progress score of any grammar school both for GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature; in 2019 both the school's English Progress 8 and Attainment 8 scores were the highest of any coeducational school in England. A-level results are equally strong.

At the same time, however, the department is committed to a curriculum and co-curricular programme that stretches well beyond GCSE and A-level examinations. Indeed, we feel it is because of this breadth that our students achieve so highly, not only in exams, but by regularly succeeding in essay, creative writing and public-speaking competitions, and by successfully applying to read English at university.

From Year 7 to Year 13 we introduce our students to an ambitiously diverse range of challenging texts, encouraging them to develop personal responses, both critical and creative. Students develop confidence writing and speaking in a variety of different roles and contexts, and are encouraged to read widely for pleasure, developing their own tastes and areas of interest.

The department offers students a rich programme of co-curricular opportunities, including theatre trips, visiting speakers, creative writing workshops, public speaking and debating, and an award-winning student-produced school magazine. In the Sixth Form, the department offers an extensive programme of extension and support for those students considering applying to read English at university, with students regularly securing places at Oxford and Cambridge.

There are currently eight members of the English and Drama Department, with the Head of Department supported by a Second in Department. The culture of the department is warmly collaborative: teachers not only share resources and lesson ideas, but work closely together to plan lessons and schemes of learning that are engaging, challenging and innovative.

All members of the department are closely involved in the continuous development and improvement of the English curriculum, with regular departmental development days used for collaborative planning. In the past two years, department development work has focussed on challenge, breadth and diversity within the curriculum, critical writing, digital learning, oracy and encouraging reading for pleasure. The department regularly works collaboratively on projects with other schools, including a successful primary outreach programme, and with organisations, including the English & Media Centre and the National Association for the Teaching of English.