

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

We are a progressive, friendly, and highly successful English Department, at an exciting stage of our development, with a clear vision for the future. The English Department was graded Outstanding by Ofsted in March 2011.

There are currently seven English teachers, working in a suite of well-equipped rooms.

English is a very popular subject at all key stages and students are good humoured and enthusiastic about their learning. Because the school has selective entry, there is no setting or streaming in English in key stages 3 or 4. Despite their differing starting points, we believe that every one of our students is capable of achieving the very highest levels and that it is our job to instil in them the necessary confidence, skills and attitudes to enable this. Students are taught in tutor groups and all are entered for AQA English Literature and English Language.

High expectations lie at the heart of our success and we believe in providing fulfilling learning experiences, where students take an active role in, and responsibility for, their own learning; we take full advantage of the school's Enrichment Days to deliver exciting and challenging workshops for all year groups, frequently taking students on multi-disciplinary, multi-year group visits outside of the classroom.

Cambridge Pre-U English Literature (changing to AQA A Level Literature in 2020) and A Level English Language (EDUQAS) are popular, traditional subjects which attract well-motivated and engaged students. Success rates are very high, with large numbers of students, male and female in the Sixth Form, achieving the highest grades. Results have been consistently outstanding for students taking Media Studies at A Level. Most of our students go on to Higher Education, many following these subjects at degree level.

Professional development of all staff is taken very seriously at OPGS and there are considerable opportunities for career development for someone with ideas, energy and commitment. We deliver high quality training to all teachers new to the school, be they Subject Leaders or those new to the profession.