

The English Department

The English department at Coombe Boys' School proudly achieved English Language results of 78% 9-4 in 2017 which places us 22% above the national average for boys only. We hope to build on this success in 2018 and further develop our curriculum to stretch and challenge our students.

The department currently consists of six core staff with a wide variety of skills and experience and we look forward to expanding our team. We are a teaching school and the department has and continues to support training and newly qualified English teachers with great success. At KS3 we have designed our curriculum to gradually build up GCSE skills through the study of a variety of novels, poetry, drama and nonfiction texts. We undertake GCSE study in year 10 and 11 and students currently study *Macbeth*, *The Woman in Black* and *Jekyll and Hyde* as our set texts for the literature exam.

As part of our drive to improve literacy across the school we have been working alongside other departments in collaborative learning groups to raise standards of literacy in all areas. We hold Literacy Focus evenings for students and parents to promote these whole school objectives. DEAR or 'drop everything and read' time is a weekly activity where KS3 students are encouraged to read for pleasure during lesson time and discuss what they read with their teacher; studies have shown this discussion of chosen texts improves both enjoyment of reading and literacy skills in students. Furthermore, National Poetry Day and World Book Day are central to our department calendar and we celebrate these days through creative workshops with poets, authors and book illustrators.

In addition, the English team currently offer a range of extra-curricular activities including public speaking and debating. We hope to build on this in 2018 with the addition of a creative writing club.

The right candidate will have a strong passion for English Literature and a desire to continually develop their subject knowledge and pedagogy in order to meet the needs of the new GCSE.