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Birchwood High School

English Faculty



Accommodation

We have a suite of ten dedicated rooms, all with SMART interactive white boards and a well-resourced faculty office. We also have a media room that houses a total of 30 Apple Macintosh computers all installed with Adobe CS6.

Ethos

The English and Media Faculty is forward thinking, dedicated and extremely supportive. We achieve a high level of success due to our willingness to work collaboratively to ensure that this success will grow and that we maintain a relevant and challenging curriculum that meets the needs of all our students.

Key Stage 3

We have a five year curriculum that allows for the key skills required for GCSE to be embedded right from the beginning of Year 7. Students are taught in mixed ability groups in Years 7 and 8 and we have secure schemes of work in place for the whole of KS3. We have recently updated some of our schemes of work to ensure a challenging and engaging curriculum.

Key Stage 4

All students follow the AQA English Language and Literature courses. Students are currently taught in sets at KS4. We have schemes of work in place which provide high quality and fully resourced lesson plans to support teachers in their planning. Resources are updated regularly and we continually share best practice.

Key Stage 5

As a result of students enjoying and succeeding in the English Faculty, A Level uptake has increased significantly over the past few years. A Levels on offer this year at Birchwood are English Literature, English Language, Film and Media. Next year, this trend is set to continue with more students taking the range of courses we have on offer.

Media and Film

Media Studies and Film Studies are currently very popular option subjects at GCSE and GCE. Both Media and Film achieve good results with a diverse range of students and this is why it remains such a popular choice.



Trips

We offer a range of trips for students across all key stages and subjects, for example students have seen theatre productions of "The Taming of the Shrew", "The Importance of Being Earnest" and "The Woman in Black". Students have attended conferences on Literature, Film and censorship at the BFI, attended tours of the Globe as well as visits from theatre companies with Q&A sessions on "An Inspector Calls". We have had visitors and speakers come in to school that also support various schemes of work across the faculty.