



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The Staff

The English department is a team of thirteen highly qualified teachers who are English specialists. There is a core of experienced teachers and a variety of ages and the department is recognised by the Senior Leadership Team as being a model for cooperative teamwork and strong teaching. All colleagues teach across the age and ability range. We are a highly successful English department which also prides itself on our creativity and ability to innovate in response to change. We are a warm, stable and supportive team with a history of welcoming new teachers into the department.

We play a key role in developing pupils' reading within the school and are proud of the contribution this makes to the whole school's success.

Results over time

GCSE

	2023	2022	2019
% of pupils achieving 4+ in English	90	91	93
% of pupils achieving 7+ in English	36	37	47

A Level

	2023	2022	2019
% A* - B	71	53	58
% A* - E	94	100	100

Numerous pupils go on to read English or related courses at competitive universities including Oxbridge.

Accommodation

Teachers have their own their own classroom on a dedicated English corridor on and all classrooms have interactive screens. There is a shared departmental office which is a key place where resources and ideas are exchanged.

Resources

We are a well-resourced department who pride themselves on embracing a diverse range of writing. We have a range of high quality teacher-produced materials which are banked centrally. We have engaging schemes of work across all key stages.

Extra Curricular

There are several reading initiatives and events run in association with the Library in order to further develop pupils' reading habits and skills. The department also organises extra-curricular experiences to support learning and encourage enjoyment of live performance. In the last year, for example, we have seen trips to the Globe, the National Theatre and also the British Library. We are very proud that we empower our pupils with the 'cultural capital' they will benefit from throughout their lives.

Curriculum Provision

In Years 7, 8 and 9, pupils are taught in mixed-ability groups, each containing 28 pupils. All pupils follow a common programme of work, while varying in pace and emphasis according to the needs of different groups. Some of our students (who are low prior attainers) also benefit from extra English lessons three times per fortnight.

In the school's two week timetable, pupils at KS3 have seven one hour periods of English. One period a fortnight affords guaranteed access to the outstanding fiction library which sits at the heart of the school.

In Years 10 and 11 pupils are allocated seven periods fortnightly for English. Year 10 and 11 pupils are studying for AQA English Language and English Literature GCSEs. Results at KS4 are consistently above the national average and reflect the high quality of teaching from colleagues. Recently we have introduced a GCSE Media course which is growing in popularity.

A Level numbers are healthy, reflecting the high regard in which the pupils hold the subject and the staff who teach them. We have also recently introduced an English Language A Level to complement the English Literature A Level. In Years 12 and 13, our provision consists of Eduqas English Literature and AQA English Language A Levels.

Letter of Application

In their letter of application, which should not exceed two sides of A4, applicants should, amongst other points, describe what constitutes good teaching and learning in English.