

**English Department**

*“Our English curriculum empowers our students to understand, enjoy and appreciate the power of the written and spoken word. Our curriculum will ensure that they will have powerful knowledge and skills so that they are eloquent, independent, cultured, literate and imaginative individuals.”*

At Wood Green Academy, we have a highly motivated and driven team of professionals who are committed to ensuring all students make progress and enjoy their learning and school experience.

The English Department consists of 17 members of staff, including a member of the Senior Leadership Team; the school’s SENCo; a Lead Practitioner; the School’s Literacy Coordinator, the school’s E-learning lead, the Head of Media Studies, a Year Leader and three ECTs (2 year 2 & 1 year 1). There is a broad range of teaching experience across the team.

Our current postholders for English include:

Mrs Faye Simmons – Key Stage 4 Leader

Mr Jaimie Dale – Key Stage 5 Leader

Miss Melanie Morgan - Key Stage 3 Leader

Mr James Postans - Whole School Literacy Coordinator

Miss Sara Bladen - High Potential Lead for English

**Department Resources:**

The English Department is housed on the second floor of the Hughes Block and has 11 modern classrooms and a department office – this also includes two classrooms with a dividing wall which can be opened to provide opportunities for team teaching and intervention, or revision sessions. All English classrooms are fully furnished with a range of resources and promote a positive environment to enhance teaching and learning.

Each classroom has:

* A projector and whiteboard (to be connected to a staff laptop, which is provided)
* A printer
* A visualiser
* An AfL resource bank (including a class set of mini-whiteboards, erasers, and pens)
* A full range of stationery

The English Department values the role of technology in engaging students and supporting teaching and learning. We have a class set of laptops for students to use (staff and students have WiFi access across the school). As a school, we nurture a culture of reading for enjoyment; as such, the English Department has a broad range of classic and modern texts to stimulate students of all ages and abilities and to promote reading for pleasure. The English Department is supported by the Learning Hub facility and staff. The Learning Hub includes over 15,000 books, computers, iPads and committed Academic Coaches who help support our department, including our KS3 reading lessons, which take place once a fortnight in the Hub.

*“All young people have the right to learn in English; they enjoy learning and form positive relationships with English staff; students should make progress and be supported to achieve their best in the subject; and have the opportunity to discover and be creative.”*

**Curriculum and Examinations:**

Students at Wood Green Academy follow a two-year Key Stage 3 and a three-year Key Stage 4. From Year 9, students study GCSE English Literature and GCSE English Language (AQA) and will complete the course and sit their examinations at the end of Year 11. At Key Stage 5, the department offers courses in AQA English Literature and AQA English Language. The English Department is committed to quality teaching, enriching our students, encouraging them to enjoy learning, as well as developing their cultural capital. An extensive intervention programme is available to support students in achieving their best and the department offers a range of extra-curricular opportunities too, including off-site visits and in-school performances of the English Literature exam texts. The department offers in-class support, innovative ways to approach revision classes, such as Revision Department Carousels (which all members of the team are involved in) and tuition.

**Department Successes:**

In summer 2022, the English Department achieved the following results:

* 100% pass rate in GCSE English Language
* 57% grade 5+ in GCSE English Language
* 100% pass rate in GCSE English Literature
* 55% grade 5+ in GCSE English Literature
* 40% A\*-B grades in A Level English Language
* 67% A\*-B grades in A Level English Literature

In Summer 2019, the English Department achieved the following results:

* 100% pass rate in GCSE English Language
* 72% grade 4+ in GCSE English Language
* 100% pass rate in GCSE English Literature
* 60% grade 4+ in GCSE English Literature
* 69% grade 4+ in GCSE English Literature (Year 10)
* 100% pass rate in GCSE English Literature (Year 10)
* 100% A\*- E in A-level English Language
* 92% A\*- C in A-level English Language
* 100% A\* - E in A-level English Literature
* 47% A\*- C in A-level English Literature

**Support and CPD:**

As a school, we are committed to ensuring all staff have opportunities for professional development. In joining Wood Green Academy, you will be offered opportunities to participate in a range of CPD sessions to further enhance your teaching and to support professional development. We have dedicated CPD time each Wednesday afternoon for whole school training, departmental activities and individual progression time. These activities are based on current educational research, such as supporting students’ memory, recall and retention and developing students’ character and learning traits. Whole school CPD includes the opportunity to engage in Teaching WalkThrus, where you will explore and plan implementation of well-researched teaching strategies with opportunities to discuss and share best practice with colleges across the school, and you will have the opportunity to become a member of a Working Group, which includes the High Potential, SEND and Equality working groups.

Within the English Department, all staff have opportunities to lead projects, contribute to the evaluation of our curriculum and schemes of learning, as well as shadow and observe other members of the team to further their teaching and support professional development. A successful candidate will be well supported by postholders.

As a department, we continually strive to support all students in achieving their best and we are proud to be part of Wood Green Academy. We look forward to being joined by like-minded professionals who are motivated, dedicated and passionate.

