

The English Department Brimsham Green School

Staff

Elliot Weeks	Head of department
Monique Earle	Second in department (with responsibility for KS3)
Jen Lambert	Teacher of English
Sophie Allen	Teacher of English
Tracey Dodds	Teacher of English (with responsibility for Literacy)
Ross Brown	Teacher of English
Zoe Tapsfield	Teacher of English
Emily Hamill	Teacher of English
India Baller-Theyer	Teacher of English
Natalie Jolliffe	HoH, Teacher of English (on maternity leave)
Julie Revans	AHT, Teacher of English

We are a well-qualified, experienced and enthusiastic department working cooperatively with a high level of shared decision-making. Teaching commitments and department responsibilities are distributed in order to offer opportunities for career development. We offer a high level of support for Early Career Framework teachers and PGCE students.

Accommodation

The English department has its own suite of six spacious rooms equipped with interactive whiteboards with a large office and stock cupboards nearby. Members of the department have their own dedicated classroom. The English department is responsible for the well-stocked and spacious fiction room, with over 4,000 books. There is a full-size drama studio with all the necessary sound and lighting systems which enable the teaching of the drama aspects of the English scheme of learning, if desired. The department has easy access to computer facilities in nearby blocks.

Resources

The English department is well equipped with books and non-fiction resources. All teacher-produced materials are shared and easily accessible. Creative and regularly-reviewed schemes of learning are established and in place for all key stages. Each classroom in the English block has an interactive whiteboard and visualiser. Reprographic facilities are excellent, as is technician support. We use existing stock creatively and therefore capitation allows for development. There are Teaching Assistants dedicated to the English department, who work collaboratively with staff to support and enhance students' learning.

Student groupings

Students are taught in mixed ability groups at Key Stage 3 and 4.

We have an excellent working relationship with the Supportive Education department and work very closely with the Study Centre manager.

Examination Courses

GCSE: Eduqas English / English Language and English Literature.

The vast majority of our Year 10/11 students are entered for Eduqas English Language and English Literature. A very small number of students follow the Eduqas Entry Level English course.

Outcomes

2022 KS4 Attainment

Subject	Grade 4+ (%)	Grade 5+ (%)	Grade 7+ (%)
English Language	66	49	12
English Literature	68	56	17

Timetable

There are 50 one hour lessons per fortnightly cycle. Currently, Years 7, 8 and 9 have six lessons per cycle. One will be in the fiction room of the Study Centre. There are nine English lessons for Years 10 and 11, again one of which takes place in the fiction room.

Current priorities:

- Ensuring that the literacy of our weakest students in KS3 is improved rapidly through effective interventions to improve reading comprehension;
- Effectively supporting students with additional needs (SEN K) through implementing the EEF-recommended 'SEND 5 a Day' approaches;
- Improving the performance of boys at GCSE through using the 'Me, We, You' metacognitive approach.

A Reading Community

The school prides itself on being a reading community where all members are encouraged to participate in literacy activities including author visits, reading competitions, etc. Some of these are detailed below:

- Several award shadowing book groups;
- A strong link with the University of the Third Age and evening sessions for their members including a film club, ICT courses, etc;
- Community involvement in book award events;
- Debating society;
- Literacy support groups for Year 7/8/9 students;
- Tutor-led reading incentives;
- School subscription to theday.co.uk.

Enrichment events

- GCSE student theatre trips, including a trip to see 'An Inspector Calls' in May 2023
- Year 12/13 theatre trips e.g. "A Doll's House" and "Othello"
- Year 12/13 Film Studios trip to Warner Brothers Studio
- Residential World War I Battlefields trip for AS/A2 English Literature/ Film Studies students
- Shadowing Carnegie and Concorde book award
- Author visits and workshops
- Involvement in the BBC News event

The Post

Due to having agreed with the Local Authority to breach our Year 7 intake numbers in September, we have an exciting opportunity to recruit to our English Department for a September start. In order to recruit the highest quality candidate, we are making this post permanent. We have some flexibility, and so can accommodate either a full time teacher, or potentially a part-time teacher; wherever possible we are supportive of flexible working.

You will be joining an innovative, successful, supportive and highly motivated department where your continuing professional development is championed. The successful applicant will demonstrate excellent classroom practice and excellent relationship-building skills with students.

Applying for the post

Applications should be made using the South Gloucestershire standard **application form**. **Additionally, a formal letter addressed to the Headteacher should be included. This should not exceed two sides of A4.** Within the letter applicants should focus on the following areas, providing examples where appropriate:

1. What effective teaching and learning looks like in English.
2. How you have successfully improved your practice over time.
3. How you have successfully enabled learners with additional needs to make good progress over time.

The closing date for applications is **Tuesday 9 May at 9:00 a.m.**