

English Background

We are a welcoming team of nine English specialists who work closely and collaboratively in order to do one thing each day: teach the best English lessons we can.

Together we share a suite of eight classrooms which surround a bright and welcoming space known as 'The Hub' – which is also home to a six-foot tank and family of goldfish. All classrooms are fitted with interactive whiteboards and all teachers are equipped with their own personal laptops and visualizers. Across school, staff are supported by excellent IT-based systems which allow teachers to prioritise planning and assessment outside of lessons. Regular CPLD time affords curriculum teams the opportunity to collaborate strategically and monitor effectively. The school operates a 'Ready to Learn' behaviour policy which means that standards of student behaviour are high. Accordingly, teachers and students enjoy respectful and positive relationships; lessons are places of learning.

At KS3, most classes are set by ability and English lessons are supported by whole-school literacy initiatives such as 'Read, Write, Inc.' and 'Accelerated Reader'. Our KS3 curriculum is well-planned, fully resourced in-house, and aims to be both engaging and academically rigorous. The next chapter in our KS3 curriculum development will be in partnership with other English curriculum teams within the Wellsway Multi-Academy Trust.

At KS4 we follow AQA for both English Language and English Literature and our outcomes have improved over the past three years across all ability groups. Students are supported outside of lessons via our website, 'The English Doughnut': <https://english.sbllearning.org.uk/>

At KS5 we are excited to be offering A Level English Literature from September 2021 and there is potential for any successful candidate to join in the delivery of this subject.

If you would like to know more about us, please visit our website or email me directly at LCO@sblonline.org.uk

Dr L Condon

Curriculum Team Leader for English