



Matravers School

English Department

The English Department

We are a department that provides excellent teaching and learning for all pupils in our care. As a team we are dedicated to providing pupils with a broad, balanced and developmental curriculum underpinned by a commitment to improving the literacy of pupils at Matravers School so that they can take the most appropriate pathway for them once they leave full time education. A love of studying literature is central to our curriculum plan

We are a lively and highly motivated team of 7 specialist teachers, ranging in experience. Where possible decisions are reached through collegiate team-based discussion and management. All staff are actively encouraged to initiate change and developments within the department to drive forward improvements in our practice and as part of their professional development.

All team members have their own teaching base which is well equipped. All rooms have interactive whiteboards. There is a well-stocked library and reading for pleasure is driven by the Accelerated Reader Programme. Teachers have access to computer rooms and classroom laptops.

Results over the last 3 years have consistently hit at least national attainment and progress measures in both GCSE and A Level (up until 2019). We have delivered a successful Teacher Assessed Grades process.

The Curriculum

KS3

The department follows a thematic curriculum focused on key themes such as gender and social class and schemes of work are in place that follow the “Programmes of Study” and our sequenced “Skills and Knowledge” framework. Each term we focus on our ‘Golden Nuggets’ of learning. These are an integral part of the KS3 curriculum and is used to assess, monitor and track pupil progress as well as inform curriculum planning and development.

Our curriculum is designed to motivate and engage pupils. This is largely achieved via the inclusion of media and technology in all schemes of work. Literature lies at the heart of much of what we teach.

KS4

The department follows the AQA syllabus for years 10 and 11. Pupils study GCSE English Language and Literature across years 10 and 11 and are examined at the end of the course.

KS5

We currently offer A Level English Literature and English Language to the pupils in the Sixth Form as well as opportunities to re sit GCSE English, should it be required in a small minority of cases. The department has a strong history of success at A Level.

Co-Curricular Activities

The department runs a range of activities including trips and visits to the theatre to watch performances that support and enhance our curriculum. Poets such as Roger McGough and Daljit Nagra have visited the school and performed in recent years alongside regular visits from the Shakespearean company ‘Oddsocks’ who perform to packed out audiences in our school Theatre.