

The English Faculty

Welcome to Rainhill High School's English Faculty. We are an ambitious team and over time have built up a high performing faculty in both English Language and English Literature at KS3, KS4 and KS5.

It is through the study of English and the development of sophisticated skills of communication that we can unlock doors for our pupils and support them to thrive. The English Faculty at Rainhill High School is dedicating to fostering student success, skill and love for English in all its forms by providing a solid and diverse academic foundation to allow us to maximise intellectual and creative potential in each pupil.

Aims

- To provide an exceptional experience of the English Curriculum both in and out of lessons.
- To stimulate and maintain pupil interest in English through the highest quality teaching and learning, taking into account starting points and any barriers to learning.
- To develop pupils' ability to communicate, orally and in written form, at all levels, using appropriate strategies to address different audiences and purposes equipping them to meet both the demands of external examinations and to be effective communicators in their adult lives.
- To maximise the achievement of pupils in English language and in English Literature at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 against national and locally agreed benchmarked targets.
- To promote good citizenship by incorporating concomitant skills and issues into all our schemes of work across all Key Stages.

English Faculty Ethos

- We are a forward-thinking and dedicated team of experienced English specialists.
- We are committed to the development of best practice in all aspects of English teaching.
- We value teamwork and commitment.
- We value the ability to communicate enthusiasm for our subject to our learners and colleagues alike.
- Our major concern is the nurturing of the individual child within a secure learning environment, while promoting independent learning and challenging each pupil to achieve his or her potential.

Curriculum

- At Key Stage 3, all pupils follow a 3 year curriculum structured and delivered according to the updated NC guidelines for English. Our schemes of learning are designed to ignite an enthusiasm for both English Language and English Literature and include the study of diverse and challenging texts from all genres, providing our learners with a solid foundation for GCSE and A Level study.
- Pupils will begin Key Stage 4 in Year 10 and study EDUQAS GCSE English Language and Literature.
- At Key Stage 5, we offer two distinct A Levels in English; AQA English Language and AQA English Literature A.

Examination Performance

All students sit both English Literature and English Language

	GCSE			
	2021	2019	2018	2017
English overall	TAG			
A8	10.75	10.44	10.66	10.76
P8	+0.14	+0.19	-0.04	-0.06
9-7	20%	22%	26%	29%
9-5	64%	75%	67%	68%
9-4	83%	89%	84%	83%
English Language				
9-7	20%	21%	19%	23%
9-5	69%	68%	59%	62%
9-4	89%	85%	81%	77%
English Literature				
9-7	21%	8%	24%	17%
9-5	59%	57%	56%	50%
9-4	78%	80%	75%	72%

	A			
	2021	2019	2018	2017
English Language	TAG			
A*B	44%	68%	43%	75%
A*C	100%	92%	57%	100%
English Literature				
A*B	75%	75%	40%	30%
A*C	100%	88%	60%	70%

English Faculty Staff List

Personnel

Position in Faculty

Claire Dickman	Head of Faculty and Whole School Literacy
Wendy Segal	Deputy Headteacher – Raising Standards
Gemma Thorpe	Head of Key Stage 5 English / Lead Practitioner
Hannah Pagan	Head of Key Stage 3 English
James McCrea	Head of Key Stage 4 English
Laura Melia	English Teacher
Laurissa Farrell	English Teacher
Maria Ball	English Teacher
Claire Dean	English Teacher
Sage McParland	English Teacher
Katherine Kane	English Teacher
Sam Boulton	English Teacher
Rachael Chandler	English Teacher
Vacancy	English Teacher/FEFA
Victoria Tyrer	Reading Recovery
Madeleine Dugdale	School Librarian

Resources and Rooming

- Twelve dedicated and well-equipped English classrooms.
- One dedicated English Intervention classroom.

ICT Provision

- All English classrooms are fitted with an IWB.
- Laptops are available for booking across the school.
- Good access to ICT.

Curriculum Enrichment Activities:

- Curriculum-related drama workshops and performances in school, most recently 'A Christmas Carol' in December 2019.
- Visits by authors and poets, most recently Anthony Mc Gowan in 2022 and Curtis Jobling in 2019.
- Poetry and prose writing competitions – in house, local and national.
- Literature and Language workshops for A Level students.
- Regular theatre visits for all year groups.
- Celebration of 'World Book Day'.
- Explore Reading Club.
- Scholastic book fairs visit twice yearly.
- BASH reading group and library visits.
- 'Literature Academy' for pupils in Y11,12 and 13.
- National Theatre Live screenings in school and screening of film adaptations of set texts.
- Board Games Club.
- Locomotive School Newspaper Club.
- Poetry Club.
- Reading Club.
- Scholars' Reading Club for A Level students.
- Seminars to support English Literature study at GCSE.

"The English Faculty at Rainhill High School has a supportive, caring culture within which our students thrive and achieve. We are a collaborative team who demonstrate cutting edge approaches to teaching and learning and a genuine love of English as a subject. We ensure a love of English is shared with our students by our own passion for the subject; this is across all year groups and in the sixth form. The faculty has close links to the school's five main feeder schools to ensure a smooth academic transition. We challenge and engage our learners but we also guide them to analyse, explore and apply their knowledge in a variety of different forms. Joining our team would not only provide you with agile, enthusiastic learners but also the opportunity to work within a friendly and dedicated team of teachers."

Teaching and learning is at the heart of what we do; we pride ourselves on our supportive and collaborative approach to planning, delivery and feedback/marking.

Mrs Wendy Segal
Deputy Headteacher