

Welcome to our school

Subject Leader: Mr Adam Couzens



I have been Subject Leader at Hadley Learning Community for three years. It has been a genuine pleasure to lead this department in that time and I am incredibly proud of all the work that our team has done to ensure that our students are able to access an ambitious, inspiring, and fully resourced curriculum. The progress and achievement of our students has broadly been in-line or above national outcomes for both English Language and English Literature. Nevertheless, you will be joining a driven and dedicated team who are looking for every opportunity to both improve and enhance our students' study of English whilst also nurturing a love for our subject.

Our Vision:

- ⊕ Students who study English at HLC should be enthusiastic, resilient and aware of how the world around them is shaped by the language that we read, write and listen to everyday.
- ⊕ Students should be inquisitive and curious, constantly questioning both the intentions and motivations of writers, whilst also communicating their own ideas with clarity and sophistication.
- ⊕ Students should be comfortable sharing their own ideas and be eager to debate new ones, both in relation to texts that they've studied and wider ideas from the ever-changing world they belong to.
- ⊕ Fundamentally, our team want to inspire, foster and nurture a love of language and introduce our students to both the literary greats, modern classics and the writers of their future.

Our Curriculum:

Every one of our lessons is shaped around a 'Big Question', which we find provides the students with a tangible focus for the content within the lesson but also allows them to revise and revisit with more confidence. These 'Big Questions' ensure consistency across the department, whilst also allowing our staff to explore the many avenues that make the study of English so subjective and so beautiful. Modelling is a key aspect of teaching in English; through regular feedback and guided practice students master fundamental concepts, skills and processes. Teachers explicitly teach students how to learn and revise so that they can be successful in regular knowledge and skills tests; this helps to ensure long-term retention of core principles from KS3 through to KS4 and beyond. Extended writing opportunities at KS3 and KS4 provide students with real world contexts to apply their knowledge. Key concepts are revisited over key stages as well as between lessons to practise retrieval and recall.

Each of our KS3 units is split into the study of a 'core text' and a 'wider study' whereby students complete a close reading of a series of set texts whilst being able to explore a broad range of linked ideas and applying elements of both to find their own voices in their writing. The 'core text' and 'wider study' units run in parallel with one another at KS3, which mirrors how our English Language and English Literature units run in parallel with each other in KS4. Core texts are chosen to ensure that every student has a full and comprehensive appreciation of their own literary heritage and are able to articulate and convey their own interpretations of what they're studying and how this applies to their understanding of their own world.

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Our Team:

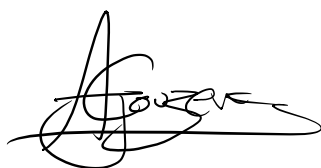
Currently the English team comprises of 14 teaching staff, both male and female. We are a dynamic group of people with a wealth of experience; some of us have been teaching for over twenty years, whereas other members are still relatively new to the profession. This mix of experience, knowledge and fresh perspectives ensures that our approach to the teaching of English is open, flexible, and current. We have a low staff turnover, of which we are extremely proud, and this exemplifies the positive and caring team that we are.

It is the Senior Leadership's principle that all staff, where possible, have their own dedicated teaching space. We are a well-resourced department, who are well respected by the Senior Leadership team; as a result, they invest heavily in our training, nurture our aspirations and look after our well-being.

Interested in Joining our Team?

If you would like any further information about us, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me (my email is at the bottom of this document). Equally, if you would like to see us in action, we would welcome a visit from you.

Yours faithfully,



Adam Couzens
English Subject Leader