

English Faculty



The overarching aim of the English Faculty is to enable young people to become confident, highly skilled and articulate through engendering a love of writing, reading and oracy. And we do this by providing consistently great-quality learning experiences in English Language and English Literature.

The English Faculty comprises a diverse group of people with a wide range of interests and a brilliant sense of humour. So, if this sounds like you, come and join our team! Our team approach is essential, and if you value a collective ethos, don't hesitate to make an application. We are very clear that we do not have classes of students and 'their' teachers, but a collective responsibility to support every student. We work very hard for our students and each other, and celebrate our achievements (including a Progress 8 score of 1.2 in 2022!) whenever possible.

Innovation and trying new strategies to engage all our students is central to all that we do and this commitment to innovation that underpins our Key Stage 3 curriculum. Together, we are increasingly research informed and have designed a curriculum which is enriching and academically challenging to provide students with solid foundations to tackle the challenges ahead of them in Key Stages 4 and 5.

We value spending time with each other to talk about key issues in English education, such as ensuring a 'flying start' for Year 7 students or how we can use the principles of educational research in our own teaching. We take great pride in our high standards and expect them from our students too.

The Faculty is very well stocked, with a wealth of literary texts and high quality text books. However, we frequently create our own resources to engage students in a personalised and relevant way. We have access to fantastic online platforms, including 'Firefly' and 'Bedrock Learning', where we are able to upload homework, quizzes, and other activities to engage students in and out of lessons.

We are fortunate to be in relatively easy reach of a large number of top-quality theatres. There are many theatre trips ranging from *School of Rock* for Year 7 to going to performances of classic dramatists such as Miller and Shakespeare. We encourage entry to competitions, and have enabled students to submit some truly fabulous entries for fiction and non-fiction. We welcome colleagues who are willing to take part in such activities – and to develop their own.

Our team is made up of full and part time teachers and an invaluable Curriculum Assistant. We have 8 classrooms (each with projectors and a 'learning wall'), a sixth form study room, and a good-sized Faculty office with desk space for everyone. The School Library is an excellent resource which we use regularly; the Librarian is a real asset, and Accelerated Reader is key to Year 7 library lessons.

In Key Stage 4, we follow AQA GCSE English Language and English Literature, and at A-Level, we follow AQA English Literature Spec A and Edexcel English Language and Literature.

Our faculty and school is a great place to be: we are well resourced, well supported and have an unrelenting drive to do the best we can for young people.

Simon Smith
Head of Faculty