



**The Staff**

The English department is a team of thirteen highly qualified teachers who are English specialists. There is a core of experienced teachers and a variety of ages and the department is recognised by the Senior Leadership Team as being a model for cooperative teamwork and strong teaching. All colleagues teach across the age and ability range. This is a most successful English department which endeavours also to be a creative and responsive one.

**Accommodation**

Teachers have their own dedicated English room and all classrooms have interactive screens.

**Resources**

The department has a good stock of novels, plays, poetry and general English resource books. We structure KS3 teaching into a series of units that embrace a diverse range of writing and these are well supported by teacher-produced materials which are banked centrally. We have engaging schemes of work for the GCSE English Language and Literature specifications and teachers use these in a collaborative way.

**Extra Curricular**

There are several reading initiatives and events run in association with the Library in order to further develop pupils’ reading habits and skills. The department also organises extra-curricular experiences to support learning and encourage enjoyment of live performance. We are very keen to give our pupils the ‘cultural capital’ they will benefit from throughout their lives.

**Curriculum Provision**

In Years 7, 8 and 9, pupils are taught in mixed-ability groups, each containing 28 pupils. All pupils follow a common programme of work, while varying in pace and emphasis according to the needs of different groups. Some of our students (who are low prior attainers) also benefit from extra English lessons three times per fortnight.

In the school’s two week timetable, pupils at KS3 have seven one hour periods of English. One period a fortnight affords guaranteed access to the fiction library for reading development. A Drama and Music complex provides the main facility for timetabled Drama. There is the opportunity for English teachers to also teach Drama.

In Years 10 and 11 pupils are allocated seven periods fortnightly for English. Year 10 and 11 pupils are studying for AQA English Language and English Literature GCSEs. Results at KS4 are always above the national average and reflect the high quality of teaching from colleagues.

In Years 12 and 13, provision is Eduqas English Literature A-Level. From year to year, take up varies between 30 and 60 students.

**Letter of Application**

In their letter of application, which should not exceed two sides of A4, applicants should, amongst other points, describe what constitutes good teaching and learning in English.