



An academy of the  
Penrose Learning Trust

**Teacher of English**

# School Information

## English Faculty

'Be the best you can be'

Dear Applicant

We know how important it is to choose the right school to work in and this information pack is designed to give you some details about our school.

Our school is committed to providing an education of the very highest quality. Our aim is to enable every child to achieve their very best academically, culturally and socially, so they have the widest possible choices and opportunities when they leave Claydon High School.

We believe that all students can achieve success with support and challenge and it is through working as a partnership with each other that we achieve this. We have high expectations of our students and we ask that they are committed to their own learning and show respect for others.

We are all aware of the unprecedented nature of GCSE results over the last few years but we are proud of having upheld our high standards. As a school 67% of our students achieved a Grade 4 or above in English and Maths, with 43% achieving a 5 or above.

We hope this information gives you an insight into our school and we would be delighted for you to visit us to have a tour and meet our staff and students; visitors and prospective colleagues often comment on the warm welcome they receive here and we would like to invite you to experience this for yourself. We hope this information captures the things you need to know before making an application; more information is also available via our school website. If, however, you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact us on 01473 836110.

Good luck with your application.



Mark Ismay  
Headteacher



Julia Simpson  
Head of English Faculty

# Join the team at Claydon High School

At Claydon High School we pride ourselves on the welcoming, friendly and collegiate working atmosphere.

We offer:

- ✓ new staff training and induction with ongoing support;
- ✓ continuous professional development opportunities;
- ✓ bespoke support for career development.

From the moment I joined Claydon High School, I felt genuinely welcomed and supported by both staff and leadership. The environment at this school is not only warm and inclusive, but also deeply committed to the growth of every individual. I've been encouraged, challenged, and trusted; each step helping me build confidence in my role. It's a place where professional development is valued and wellbeing is prioritised. I can truly say I'm thriving here, and I feel incredibly grateful to be part of a school that nurtures both its students and its staff with such care. English Teacher Sep 2025

On a practical level we can provide:

- ✓ free on-site parking;
- ✓ cycle to work provision;
- ✓ use of the gym and other fitness opportunities.

"The support of staff has been great and everyone has been both helpful and friendly. The size of the school has meant that I have started to know my way around, the systems and the students, quickly; I already feel like part of the school community."

Assistant Headteacher, September 2024

We are incredibly sociable and you will find us:

- ✓ offering free tea and coffee in the staffroom;
- ✓ providing breakfast and lunch on PD days;
- ✓ celebrating the onset of holidays with staff draws for Christmas and summer hampers or Easter confectionery;

"I was lucky enough to start my career at Claydon High School in 2007 and spent 2 years at the school. This helped me form a strong foundation for my career. After 2 years here I moved onto 2 other schools and had a range of roles and responsibilities until I made the decision to return to the school as I had such fond memories. I was not disappointed upon my return, the people are still just as warm and friendly and the approach to staff wellbeing is amazing. It's the little attention to details that make you feel like a valued individual." (Maths Teacher, September 2022)

We enjoy working here; why not come and join us?

## **Information about the school**

Claydon High School is an 11-16 school with 773 students on roll. The school serves a predominately rural area to the north and west of Ipswich.

Claydon High School has a long history within the community. The school has been on the site since 1937 and has grown enormously to respond to the demands of each new generation. We constantly work to refurbish and maintain our facilities.

Claydon is a small high school on the outskirts of Ipswich, well served by the A12 and A14. As part of the Penrose Learning Trust we are working closely with other academies, including our closest primary school, to share best practice, supporting colleagues in professional development and maximising opportunities for our students. We enjoy excellent liaison with our primary pyramid and other local high schools.

The school has six primary feeder schools, Claydon, Bramford, Witnesham, Somersham, Henley and Sproughton though we draw regularly from over 25 different primary schools. We have very strong links with our pyramid of schools and we have all worked hard together to establish effective liaison and transition, sharing of events, planning and Continuing Professional Development.

We are a designated Lead Training School for secondary SCITT and are committed to supporting teachers in training and their first few years of teaching alike.

## **Claydon Campus**

Last academic year we joined with Claydon Primary School in order to work towards an all-through school. This is an incredibly exciting time in both schools' history as we embark on some ground breaking work.

## **Penrose Learning Trust**

This is a partnership of four high and five primary schools based in South Suffolk and North Essex who aspire to offer the best possible education for our young people; excellence in collaboration is our shared motto.

The vision for the Trust is to inspire and enable all our young people, regardless of background or need, to be the best they can be.

## **Achievement for all**

Our aim at Claydon High School is to provide a high-quality education which helps students to grow and develop as self-confident individuals in an environment which is supportive and caring.

We treat students as individuals and help them to achieve the highest standards they are capable of. We have high expectations of students and develop and encourage team work, respect and co-operation; all of these factors help students to grow into self-confident individuals, able to take a full and active part in their community. Success and achievement are celebrated and we seek a positive partnership with parents/carers and those in the wider community.

Our school vision is that our students will be lifelong learners who are ambitious and contribute positively to their community.

**From students we expect that:**

- ✓ they are conscientious about their own learning
- ✓ they show respect and compassion towards others
- ✓ they allow others to learn
- ✓ they are tolerant of the views of others
- ✓ they represent the school in the best way they can
- ✓ they adhere to uniform rules
- ✓ they challenge themselves

**From parents/carers we ask that:**

- ✓ they ensure students attend school regularly and on time
- ✓ students have all the correct equipment and uniform
- ✓ they support the school in maintaining high standards of behaviour
- ✓ they encourage students to work to the best of their ability with both school and homework
- ✓ they sign planners, contact the school if there is a problem and attend consultation evenings

**Parents/carers can expect from us:**

- ✓ information about progress and achievement
- ✓ high standards and expectations
- ✓ good communication
- ✓ a broad and balanced curriculum
- ✓ support with any concerns
- ✓ guidance on post 16 studying, progression and opportunities available

**Staffing****The Senior Leadership Team consists of the following:**

Mark Ismay	Headteacher
Ian Harris	Deputy Headteacher
Ali Legg	Assistant Headteacher
Drew Nash	Assistant Headteacher
Beth Wheatley	Assistant Headteacher

**The English Faculty consists of the following:**

Julia Simpson	Head of English Faculty
Mollie Brunning	Assistant Head of Year
Léonie Crissell-Moore	(PT)
Kim Brand	(PT)
Kate Archer	(PT)
Sarah Lovell-Brown	(PT)
Ali Legg	Assistant Headteacher
Emily Wozniak	
Kim Burgess	English Teaching and LRC Assistant
Carrie Chittock	LRC Manager
Vacancy	

## **Student Management**

At Claydon High School we promote an atmosphere of achievement and success. We want students to see the benefits of working hard to achieve great things. We recognise and celebrate achievement in all areas of school life. Students collect plus points for such things as: academic achievement; effort; progress; attendance; punctuality; uniform and equipment; good behaviour; help around the school and commitment to extra-curricular activities. When a student gains 25 plus points their name is entered into a termly prize draw. Student success is celebrated in the school newsletter and regular letters home are sent for student contribution to school life. There is also public recognition at end of term presentation assemblies and the Annual Awards Evening.

We constantly remind students that they should be behaving in a positive way and we work on choices and consequences to help students make the right decisions about their behaviour and attitudes. We ask staff to be consistent in their approaches and follow the student management policy. We find this avoids any confusion with the students as to the expectations required of them.

## **Premises and Facilities**

We are proud to be able to offer our students:

- Purpose built subject classrooms
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics laboratories
- Fully equipped rooms for Art and Technology
- our ICT suites with additional laptops and tablets
- Careers Centre
- Student Services area
- Fully equipped studios for Music and Drama
- Community use Sports Hall
- A well-equipped fitness suite
- Multi sports surface
- A Learning Resource Centre

## **Curriculum**

### **Transition Support**

We are fully committed to ensuring that Year 6 students enjoy a smooth transition into secondary education. Students will have the opportunity to visit us and participate in subject events. All parents/carers and students are welcome to visit us on Open Mornings and on our Open Evening in September. Our staff visit all the feeder primary schools and work with our new intake in the summer term of Year 6. Prior to their admission each student and their parent/carer will have an interview in June to share information.

- Every day begins with a 20 minute lesson with the form tutor, followed by four 75 minute lessons
- We have a two week timetable

## The school day

Time	
8.30 am	Period 1
8.50 am	Period 2
10.05 am	Break
10.25 am	Period 3
11.40 am	Period 4
12.55 pm	Lunch
1.35 pm	Period 5
2.50 pm	End of day

	Key Stage 3			Key Stage 4	
SUBJECT	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
English	7	7	7	7	7
Mathematics	6	6	6	6	6
Science	6	6	6	8	8
Physical Education	3	3	3	2	2
LIFE	2	2	2	1	1
Modern Foreign Languages	4	4	3	4 x option subjects 4 lessons per fortnight	
Design Technology & Computer Science	3	3	3		
Art & Design	2	2	2		
Drama	1	1	1		
Music	1	1	1		
History	2	3	3		
Geography	3	2	3		

Currently the optional subjects offered at KS4 are: Art and Design, Business Studies, Computing Science, Design Technology, Drama, Engineering, French, GCSE PE, Geography, Health and Social Care, History, Hospitality and Catering, Music, Sociology and Spanish.

## Faculty Curriculum

### Key Stage 3 English

We follow a three year Key Stage 3 curriculum which is designed to develop language and literature skills for all students. The details of the curriculum can be found on the English page of the school website.

## **Key Stage 4 English**

We follow a two year GCSE course and all students study English Language (Eduqas) and English Literature (Edexcel) with a small number of students also undertaking the Functional Skills qualification. Further details of our GCSE curriculum can be found on the subject page of the school website. We offer weekly targeted intervention sessions for Year 10 and 11 students after school.

## **Staff Development**

We feel that continuing professional development is highly important for all staff. We have an in-house CPD programme as well as the opportunity to attend courses run by external providers. We pride ourselves on our induction programme and further training can be requested as part of our performance management process. An annual theme for CPD encompasses PD Days and whole school teaching and learning.

## **Extra-curricular Activities**

We have a fantastic staff at Claydon High School who offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities. Our students benefit from so many opportunities they would be impossible to list!! We also have a huge number of trips from different subject areas, many in holidays and over weekends. Staff support of any extra-curricular activity is always very welcome!

## **Things we are proud of:**

- Peer student monitoring
- Year 11 Revision Boot Camp
- In house staff CPD programme
- Year 7 transition project
- Visiting speakers and authors
- Readathon
- Music performances
- Drama productions
- Our sports teams
- Year 10 work experience
- The curriculum being enhanced by many varied trips and visits
- Charity fundraising
- Christmas hampers
- Community tea party
- Our results
- Our staff
- Our students!

## **Extra-curricular opportunities in English:**

- We regularly undertake trips to the theatre for studied texts and wider enrichment
- Book Mastermind
- Debating competitions
- Annual trip to Battlefields of World War One for understanding of context for poetry and other related literature.

## **In conclusion**

We look for quality in everything we do and strive to be the very best we can whilst seeking to provide opportunities for our students and staff to experience success, growth and happiness.



## Joining us as an Early Career Teacher?

Read about how we will support you in this first year of your new career.

Judged “good” by Ofsted, Claydon High School students have pride in their school, excellent relationships with staff and there is a “positive climate for learning”.

Claydon is a small high school on the outskirts of Ipswich, well served by the A12 and A14. As part of the Penrose Learning Trust, we are working closely with other academies to share best practice; supporting colleagues in professional development and maximising opportunities for our students. We enjoy excellent liaison with our primary pyramid and other local high schools

"I couldn't have started my teaching journey at a better school. I was fortunate enough to train in such a supportive and warm environment and I am overjoyed to be able to continue my professional development surrounded by an excellent team. The whole staff culture is so well-established and welcoming, it made my acceptance of the job the easiest decision I have made. Within the ever-evolving world of teaching, having a solid foundation that is there to support and guide you at any given moment eases what can feel like a daunting and scary period. Claydon captures the sense of community perfectly and I am thrilled to be a part of it."

English ECT September 2024

We work with both NESTT and EAST and are committed to supporting teachers in training and their first few years of teaching alike.

As a small community high school (NOR: 776) we are a very friendly staff where new colleagues at any level soon get to know many people across faculties and subjects. All new colleagues are invited to new staff training prior to their start date and follow a whole school induction programme in their first term as well as being supported by faculties and other staff. NQTs are helped to access training, support and CPD in school and from our network of neighbouring schools.

Many of our NQTs from the past few years continue to work at the school following their first year and a number have taken on TLR posts and taken a role in leading curricular developments in school and many have followed programmes for developing their teaching and leadership skills.

### Why not come and see for yourself?

See our website [www.claydonhigh.com](http://www.claydonhigh.com) or contact Sue Perrotton (Headteacher's PA) at [admin@claydonhigh.com](mailto:admin@claydonhigh.com) if you would like to know more about our school or to arrange a visit.