



THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department at Perschore High School has an enviable reputation and a proven record of success at both GCSE and A-Level. All students benefit from a generous allocation of time and staffing in the subject; the needs of every student are catered for and programmes of study are individually tailored. There are currently seven full-time specialist teachers of English, with one or two classes taught by colleagues from the Drama department. In addition, the English team has a dedicated Learning Support Assistant.

In September 2020, the English department moved into a brand new, purpose built block, which includes eight classrooms, a small group intervention room, a library and departmental work room. Close by is the drama studio, equipped with sound and lighting systems, which is used for the curriculum teaching of Drama, as well as small-scale productions and presentations.

In KS3, English Literature and Language are taught as discrete subjects with separate teachers. We deliver a varied and exciting curriculum whilst preparing students for the rigours of KS4. In the summer term, Year 9 students begin the GCSE English Literature course.

All members of KS4 complete GCSEs in both English Language and Literature, following the AQA specifications. We recently moved to a model of delivering English Literature in Year 10 and English Language in Year 11. Although the success of this model remains under review, feedback from both parents and students has been extremely positive and we anticipate that this will continue.

A-level performance is strong and we have two established courses on offer: AQA English Language and Literature (Specification B) and AQA English Literature (Specification A). There are nine lessons per fortnight in Year 12 and in Year 13.

As necessitated by the changing needs of the National Curriculum and the individual needs of students, the department keeps its programmes of study and schemes of work, as well as its general approach and practice, under continual review. It is the department's policy to involve all its members in the development of all aspects of its work. Wherever possible, individual INSET needs are met; this, along with the school's Performance Management process, ensures that colleagues receive as much support as possible.

We have good working relationships with colleagues from our feeder middle schools and have a collaborative approach to curriculum planning and assessment. To assist smooth transition, students complete a unit of work at the end of Year 7 that complements and supports the high school curriculum.

In September 2021, Perschore High School for the first time, welcomed 90 Year 7 students. Significant work has been undertaken to develop a new KS3 curriculum.

A wide variety of extra-curricular activities flourishes under the auspices of the department, including theatre visits, debating and creative writing. We have an exceptional record in both debating and public speaking. Members of the department play a full and invaluable role in all aspects of life at Perschore High School.

For further information, please contact Nat Keogh (Head of English)
nk@perschore.worcs.sch.uk