

THE ENGLISH CURRICULUM

In the English Department we believe that an important aspect of our role is to develop every student's sense of self-worth and to promote the importance of understanding and respecting all members of society, their personal experiences, and their beliefs.

Our vision is to nurture a lifelong love of all aspects of language and literature. We strive to provide students with the requisite skills and vocabulary to develop a voice in society that is unique, clear, reflective and respectful of others in both the written and the spoken word.

Our aim is to foster a love of reading and to provide all students with access, in the texts they read, to the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the world and the diverse experiences of the people in it.

We believe that the ability to critically engage with the ideas conveyed through literary fiction and non-fiction texts enriches students' cultural understanding. A confident access to language will enable all students to participate fully in public, cultural and working life.

KEY STAGE 3

English in Year 9 is a vibrant and popular subject comprising Language, Literature, and Drama. All these aspects of the subject are integral parts of the final year of KS3. A skills-based approach is taken throughout the year to prepare students for their end of year exam and to prepare them for their next step into the GCSE courses.

KEY STAGE 4

In Years 10 and 11 students are prepared for their GCSEs in English Language and Literature for which we follow the AQA Specification. Although the examination board separates English Language and English Literature, we teach them as elements of the same lessons to ensure blended learning so that students have the opportunity to practise a range of skills throughout the two years.

KEY STAGE 5

The department offers English Literature, English Language, Film Studies and Classical Civilisation to A Level. Each A level set is shared by two teachers.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

We aim to offer students a range of extra curricular activities within the department and are always looking for opportunities to offer our students. Some regular activities include:

Creative Writing Competitions

This is your opportunity to indulge your creative writing talent and win prizes in a wide range of exciting competitions throughout the year.

Carnegie Shadowing, Worcestershire Teen Book Award and National Teen Book Club

We offer our students the opportunity to get involved with other students to form a panel of judges to decide which of the shortlisted novels for young people should win the Worcestershire Teen Book Award and the prestigious Carnegie Award each year. The National Teen Book Club is a four-week book club which runs during the Spring term so look out for information about this.

Local and National Competitions

Where possible, we provide opportunities for students to take part in competitions such as Evesham's Festival of Words, Foyle Young Poet of the Year, and other writing competitions.

Theatre Trips

Where possible, we try to provide opportunities for students to see a text performed. In recent years, we have been fortunate to see 'Much Ado About Nothing' in Stratford, 'Macbeth' at the Globe in London and at the RSC in Stratford, 'Frankenstein' at the Attic Theatre in Stratford and at Malvern Theatre and 'A Christmas Carol' at the RSC in Stratford and at Birmingham Rep.

Cultural Trips

To complement students' understanding of texts, we endeavour to take them to events and workshops. Recent examples include a visit to Shakespeare's birthplace and a lecture at the Shakespeare Institute for A Level English Literature, a trip to Rome for A Level Classical Civilisation, and visits to study language acquisition for A Level English Language.