English Department Information

The English Department consists of the following members of staff:

Head of Faculty Mr N Church

Second in Faculty Mrs G Cocking

Teachers of English Miss P Hammond

 Miss S Mugridge

 Mrs J Sugden

 Miss S Douse

 Miss L Grace

We deliver GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature at KS4, a flexible KS3 English programme, and we share some of the timetable for the delivery of Drama, working closely with the school’s dedicated Librarian to foster a love of reading throughout the student body.

The English Department is an enthusiastic, dedicated and reflective team of specialists within the school, and were praised during the last OfSTED inspect on for having a clear plan, high quality pedagogy, and robust systems for marking and feedback. The Faculty is situated centrally in the school, in a well-resourced suite of classrooms. One of the classrooms has desktop computers for student use and all of the teachers share access to a class set of laptop computers.

During Key Stages 3 and 4 students are taught in mixed ability groups, maintaining a high level of aspiration for all students throughout. In Year 7, 8 and 9 students follow a rich curriculum which prepares them for their GCSE examinations, including Shakespearean drama, Gothic and Victorian texts, and a range of poetry. The department prides itself on delivering engaging lessons with a clear sense of purpose, pace and challenge for all learners. We encourage our students to be ambitious writers, insightful readers, thoughtful listeners and articulate speakers. When they eventually leave us, we want our students to be informed, confident young adults.

The department is committed to providing the students with enrichment activities to support their studies

and organises numerous trips and experiences as part of this. Recently offered opportunities have included

trips to the GCSE Poetry Live! Event, the RSC ‘Macbeth’ broadcast for schools and theatre trips to ‘The Woman in Black’. We work closely with local universities, with our Year 11 students attending Nottingham Trent University’s annual student conferences, and are developing an enrichment day at the University of Derby for some of our promising students. We regularly enter our students’ work for creative writing competitions such as the BBC’s 500 Words story competition, and are looking at engaging with existing non-fiction writing opportunities.

The department is welcoming and nurturing. We have developed a culture of collaborative practice and look forward to adding to our existing team.