



TEACHER OF ENGLISH

The Department

As a department we are committed to high standards of creativity and integrity. We seek to develop these characteristics through dealing with students, colleagues and leaders with trust, openness and honesty. These, we believe, are values which enable learning for all. We care about our students and about the integrity of the work that we set for them. We seek positive and supportive relations with all staff in Sir William Ramsay and we seek development as teachers through our own learning, research and relationships and skills. Operating as a team, we share good practice and ideas, meet regularly, and continually standardise assessment work across the key stages.

As a department we are actively committed to the equality of all students in our care regardless of race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. As such, we will respond to racist or oppressive language with robust and reasoned opposition. Bullying of any form will not be tolerated.

The Curriculum

KS3 with the demands of 9-1, we ensure that all the skills required are addressed and built upon during KS3. Developing pupils' communication skills, the essential reading, writing, speaking and listening, we encourage their creativity enjoyment of the subject. All students are given the best opportunities to reach their potential. Students follow the reading programme Accelerated Reader.

KS4 All students take both English Language and English Literature GCSE with Edexcel. The English Language GCSE has two components: Fiction and Imaginative Writing and Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing. The first requires pupils to read a range of prose fiction, particularly 19th century fiction, and then use this reading to stimulate and develop their own writing. It is worth 40% of the final GCSE. Paper Two requires pupils to study a range of 20th and 21st century non-fiction texts. They will develop their ability to analyse the writing of others as well as producing non-fiction texts of their own. This component is worth 60% of the final GCSE. There is a Speaking and Listening Endorsement.

KS5 We have a thriving English Literature A Level course taken with AQA, which covers a wide range of poetry, prose and Shakespeare in the 'Love Through the Ages' paper. The second paper has a synchronic approach in which we study texts relating to World War One.

Our Facilities and Extra Curricular Opportunities

Each of our full-time members of the department have their own rooms fully equipped with whiteboards. We have a team room for meetings and storage for our extensive resources. All students in KS3 have regular lessons in our well stocked library. We are keen to take students on visits to the cinema and theatre when appropriate: we also invite theatre and performance groups here, as well as having a visiting author. Our students create a newsletter – the Ramsay Reader.

Literacy

We run a variety of schemes to promote and improve literacy across the school organised by a Literacy Coordinator who is part of the Department.

Headteacher: Mrs Christine McLintock