

Department Information

English

This is a unique opportunity to join a thriving 'Team English' in a lovely, successful school. The department has a great atmosphere and was proud to be commended for its practice during a 'deep dive' in our most recent OFSTED inspection. Inspectors commented on the consistently strong level of teaching and overwhelming positive vibe in the department. You will struggle to find a better team to be part of.

The English Department is a very successful and thriving part of Stratford upon Avon School, enjoying popularity and a very positive reputation amongst enthusiastic students. Success is evident in exam results, A-level recruitment and Student Voice.

The Department presently consists of sixteen colleagues, including full and part time staff and two dedicated subject Teaching Assistants. We have a clear, shared vision, with positive learning experiences for our learners and high-quality teaching and learning at its heart. We are a close and committed team and are collectively passionate and proud of what we do and the ways in which we can inspire and nurture our learners across all key stages. We genuinely care about our learners and relationships between staff and students are strong and are seen by our learners as the key to our success. The department has a strong team spirit; we enjoy working together, helping each other and being part of Stratford upon Avon School. The team are fully dedicated to building on our present successes and strengths and are striving to provide the best quality teaching and learning experiences possible. We are excited about the journey that the School and the Department is on and we believe that the future here at Stratford upon Avon School is very bright.

All English rooms are situated on the first floor including a department resource base and two intervention rooms. This allows us to meet regularly and work closely by sharing ideas and personal resources. All classrooms are equipped with a data projector. The department is well resourced and ICT facilities are available on a wider scale through a school booking system. The Department work closely with the Independent Study Centre, particularly through reading lessons, author visits, links with our partner primary schools and involvement with the Carnegie Book Award.

Management of the department is led by the Curriculum Leader and is supported by four members of staff who hold TLR positions.

At Key Stage Three all students follow an integrated programme of speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities through explicitly differentiated schemes of work.

At Key Stage Four we currently follow the Edexcel specifications for English Language and the AQA specification for Literature. The department's results show as adding significant value in RAISEonline for the last two years of national exams.

In the Sixth Form, English Literature (AQA), English Language (AQA) and Media Studies (Eduqas) are popular options.

Visits and extracurricular activities are encouraged and feature strongly in the department vision. A flavour of which, from previous years, is listed here: Year 11 students have been to the RSC to see 'Romeo and Juliet'; Year 12 and 13 English Language students spent a day in London at the Guardian headquarters taking part in a writing workshop; Year 12 and 13 English Literature students went to the Annual Shakespeare Lecture at Stratford Town Hall where a University Professor from Warwick delivered a talk on some of the plays which they have studied; KS3 students took part in the Warwickshire book awards.

Stratford upon Avon School is a superb building, but more importantly, it has a friendly atmosphere and relationships between staff and students are strong. There is a real sense of community here. If appointed, you will be joining a supportive department of committed and hardworking staff.

Mrs Stephanie Hill
Curriculum Leader English
July 2024