The English Department

The English department at All Saints is a flagship department within the school promoting excellent progress for all students. Under the new specification, our GCSE attainment has consistently ranked among the top in the city.

Our sixth form was judged Outstanding by Ofsted at our last inspection and our English Literature and English Language A-Level are among the most successful KS5 courses in the school. We strive to offer a high level of challenge and cultural enrichment to all of our students through teaching complex post-modern crime texts for Literature and listening to live talks by contemporary theorists for Language.

We are committed to delivering a varied, inspiring and rigorous curriculum to students of all abilities through banded groups at KS3 and KS4. High challenge is integral to all lessons. We are passionate about delivering a diverse range of texts at KS3, exploring contemporary young adult fiction, Yorkshire poets and spoken language texts alongside more traditional forms.

We value the impact that a range of practical application can have on students' learning and seek to promote creativity through compositions of poetry, short stories and media texts. Similarly, the elements of drama in our curriculum are often seen by students as highlights, whether looking at Shakespeare or more modern texts. We see drama as a powerful tool for developing students' confidence and understanding when approaching challenging material.

Our team of 15 teachers specialise in a plethora of areas including: A-Level Language and Literature; SEN; literacy interventions including Closing the Vocabulary Gap; primary transition; Pupil Premium. The department is led by a Director of English who is responsible for performance and standards, a Curriculum Leader who leads on the curriculum and literacy interventions at KS3 and a Curriculum Developer who develops teaching and learning at KS4.

All Saints benefitted from the Building Schools for the Future programme in 2011 so our numerous English classrooms are all equipped with interactive whiteboards or touch screen technology, dry wipe tables, computers for independent learning and some visualisers. Each member of the department shares a collective office space with their own desk and computer.

Overall, we are an innovative, dedicated and ambitious team who constantly strive for excellence. At the heart of our philosophy is the desire to instil a lifelong love of learning, and particularly of English, in all our students.

January 2020