

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



ENGLISH

Q How do you encourage reading in the English Department?

A At the core of our ethos in the English Department is the drive to inspire, motivate and support students in their learning throughout the school but also to inspire an appreciation of the power of Literature and to encourage a love of reading. In 2 out of 3 lessons a week, teachers will be using time in lessons to read engaging texts with their classes including contemporary fiction and classics. Students will also be introduced to a range of texts throughout the curriculum and will study *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens and *Animal Farm*. We also have a charity event every year in the Department – the Readathon where students are encouraged to set a challenge to read throughout the week and raise money for charity.

Q Are classes set in English?

A This year, our Year 7 are in mixed ability classes. They will be set as they move up through the school.

Q What extra- curricular activities do you run in English?

A We run a very successful Debate Mate club in the school. If you join Debate Mate, you meet regularly to debate interesting and controversial topics in school but also there are lots of opportunities to go to a range of debate competitions with other schools. We also run a Creative writing club which is very popular. One of our teachers also runs a Chess Club. We are also due to start our first Medieval Club this year!

Q How successful is the English Department?

A At GCSE and A level our results are consistently high. In 2019, our GCSE's

- 88% at grade 4 and above – English Language
- 94% at grade 4 and above English Literature
- At A Level 100% at grades A*-E

Q Do all students take the GCSE English Literature exam

A All students in Year 11 will take exams in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Q Do many students go on to study English at A level in your school?

A We offer English Literature at A level in the Department. This is the most popular subject at A level – we have 3 classes in Year 12 and 3 in Year 13. We consistently have 100+ students taking English Literature.