

English Department at Sittingbourne Community College

At present, there are seventeen members of staff in the English Department which consists of 17 Teachers, supported by an Intervention Specialist, three Literacy Teaching Assistants and an English Teaching Assistant. We are a highly experienced, motivated and innovative team, always striving to improve the learning experience and academic achievements of our pupils.

At S.C.C., we use personalised teaching styles, ability setting, high quality lessons and targeted interventions to give every student the best possible chance of succeeding. It is our aim that by the end of Year 11, all pupils will be able to communicate fluently in spoken and written English, as well as being able to read with understanding and insight.

KS3

Years 7-9

In Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils are set in parallel groups according to ability and are taught appropriately yet with challenge at all levels. Topics taught are constantly reviewed to ensure they prepare pupils for the rigor of GCSE examinations. The curriculum focuses on exposing pupils to a wide variety of literature, from Shakespeare to modern travel writing. Non-fiction skills and units are also built in, with a focus on narrative and descriptive writing. There is also a drive to maintain literacy skills throughout English work, which we believe will help facilitate progress in all subjects, not just English.

We also run the Accelerated Reading Programme that supports pupils in developing independence in reading. Additionally, pupils have one Accelerated Reader lesson every two weeks where they read for pleasure and are provided with personalised intervention.

KS4

Years 10-11

Exam Board - AQA

- AQA English Literature 8702
- AQA English Language 8700

Pupils will study two GCSEs during Key Stage Four. English Language and English Literature.

English Language:

As one of the core subjects, the study of English has always been vital for every student. However, now more than ever, it is clear that pupils who are able to read and write to a good standard are more likely to be successful in other subjects. Achieving a good grade in English is imperative in securing students' future prospects – all college and employment routes require an English GCSE grade 5 and above.

English Literature:

The study of English Literature is an excellent way for pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding of novels, plays and poems as well as exploring a range of spiritual, moral emotional and cultural topics. In the S.C.C. English department, we love to make lessons more creative and

provide opportunities for reading; imaginative writing, discussion, drama-based exploration as well as practising for the more focused exam-based questions.

This course will include the study of a play by Shakespeare, a 19th Century novel, a modern drama and poems from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries so it will develop pupils' familiarity with the English literary heritage and how literature has developed over time.

KS5

Exam Board - AQA

- AQA Literature B (7717)
- Aspects of Tragedy

Sixth form English pupils are taught to read and think analytically, consider different interpretations and listen and respond to one another sensitively in preparation for the seminar style environment they are likely to find at university.

One of the most important skills they learn is how to write coherently and critically. Not only does this prepare pupils for the challenge of examinations, it also aids them tremendously in their other subjects and is invaluable in higher education as well as the world of employment.

This is an exciting time to join our English Department, as we continue to grow and develop.

We look forward to receiving your application.