

English Faculty – Head of Faculty Mr S.Slocombe

Teaching in English is at least good and often excellent.

Key Stage 3

Pupils follow a broad curriculum based on a five unit programme of study which includes: prose, poetry, drama, non-fiction/media and exam units. Pupils have six lessons per fortnight for English and one for Drama. Exciting and innovative teaching and learning takes place throughout the college.

Most pupils enter St Bede's with at least Grade 4 in English and in the past few years an average of 90%+ pupils achieved grade 5 or above at KS3. We are always looking for improvements, particularly in relation to progress. A development area for us is improving the performance of the more able pupils within each Key Stage and increasing the progress between Key Stage 2 and 3.

Key Stage 4

Year 11 pupils follow an Edexcel GCSE Language and AQA Literature GCSE course. The majority of time in Year 10 and 11 is given to enjoying the study of language and literature, ultimately leading to outstanding success in external exams. There are internal practice exams at the end of each term for specific units of the course. Both GCSEs are 100% terminal examinations as speaking and listening is now reported on separately from the Language GCSE result.

English GCSE Results

% A* - C / 9-4	% Achieving A* - C Grade	% Achieving Grade 9-4	
	2016	2017	2018
Language	79%	83%	77%
Literature	88%	81%	82%
Core English	88%	88%	84%

Key Stage 5

We 'run' A level courses for both AQA Language and AQA Literature. Results with our first cohorts have been very pleasing. Enrichment opportunities are available for Year 12/13 pupils.

	A Level results 2017/ 2018		
	No. of pupils	% A*-C	% A*-E
Language	10 / 7	70% / 57%	100% / 100%
Literature	8 / 14	75% / 57%	100% / 93%

Assessment

Much work has been undertaken in recent years to find relevant and interesting ways of assessment. Assessment for Learning is embedded into general practice. Peer marking has been credited for making assessment come alive. Formal assessment at KS3 is evident within our folder/exercise book system where fine levelling has been replaced with 1-9. Year 10 and 11 final pieces are also graded 1-9.

Enrichment

Poetry Live! is one of the highlights for Year 11. We have been visited by many authors and were delighted recently to have had Chelsea Flood as our Patron of Reading. National Poetry and World Book Days are opportunities for both pupils and staff to share their favourite texts. Visits to theatres and other places of interest are undertaken. Pupils each year participate in the Catenian public speaking competition, English Speaking Union competition and the Gabblers; with significant success.

Vacancy

The ideal person is a great teacher who is willing and able to teach English to A level standard. If you are a good teacher and want to play your part in ensuring St Bede's remains a great place of learning, we would be pleased to hear from you. The faculty prides itself on developing great teachers.

J G Maher

Principal