



# DARRICK WOOD SCHOOL

## THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT English Teacher MPS

The English Department comprises ten full-time teachers and one part-time colleague. In the closely linked Media and Film Departments, we have two full-time colleagues. Members of the Department share a common philosophy of education and this has ensured co-operative planning of policies, teaching materials and assessment methods. Team work is an important feature of the Department and has contributed significantly to the high level of success in academic achievement. Staff are given opportunities to extend their expertise by accepting responsibility for aspects of the English curriculum. Each member of staff is issued with a file of policy statements, and schemes of work for Key Stages 3 and 4.

The most recent OFSTED report drew attention to the fine work being carried out in English, and the department played a key role, both through value-added and in the quality of its teaching, in informing the inspectors' assessment of the school as 'Outstanding'.

The department is housed in a suite of ten well-equipped rooms; we have our own staff area, and all colleagues have ready access to ICT to inform their everyday teaching.

The School consistently achieves excellent results, was judged to be 'outstanding' in its last OFSTED inspection, and was designated a Teaching School in 2013. In 2015 we were proud to be awarded the World Class Schools Quality Mark. The School provides very good opportunities for career development and a full support programme for all new staff.

The English department's sustained record of academic success over the past decade has secured the department's place as a consistently successful core subject in the School and one of the most successful departments in the Borough. We have a high profile in the local area, and have hosted INSET sessions for other departments within the local collegiate. Our examination results demonstrate that we have a collective commitment to students of all abilities, and to the Comprehensive ethos. Within this, we are also wedded to setting by ability and accurate differentiation. All new colleagues joining our team are expected to share these commitments and principles. Our greatest commitment of all is to the liberating power of English and the joy of English Literature.

Year 7 pupils are initially taught in mixed ability groups; rigorous internal assessment takes place in the first half term, following which they are placed in three broad bands. Years 8 and 9 are taught in similar bands, with the added refinement of two accelerated sets in Year 9.

Years 10 and 11 are broadly banded for their GCSEs, following the Edexcel syllabus. All students take GCSEs in both English and English Literature. There are also Media Studies GCSE Option groups in Years 10 and 11. The excellent results achieved ensure that A level English Literature and A level Media Studies are popular Sixth Form choices.

Research facilities are excellent, particularly for the Sixth Form (who have unique access to our new, state of the art Resources Centre), who can access texts, CDs, DVDs and computer programs on disk for private study.

Visiting theatre groups are invited into school for Years 7-13 and theatre trips and outings to Sixth Form Conferences are arranged frequently for the Upper School. A Film Studies course is also in

place, under the auspices of the Media Department, and has proved highly successful with groups in Year 12 and Year 13.

Media Studies is an important integral part of the work of the English Department. The English Department, Media Studies Department, and Film Department make up the Communications Faculty.

### **The Post**

A full-time English post has become available from September 2018. Completed application forms, accompanied by a supporting letter of no more than 2 sides of A4 stating why you are a suitable candidate for the post, should be returned to the Head Teacher at the School by noon, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018.