

TRING SCHOOL

ENGLISH AND MEDIA DEPARTMENTS

STAFFING

English and Media Studies are outstanding departments within the school; we are forward-thinking and embrace whole-school initiatives in teaching and learning. We work collaboratively and share resources across the departments. The Subject Leaders for English and Media Studies have overall responsibility for the quality of teaching and learning across the Departments and are strongly supported by members of the team.

We have worked hard to ensure that all schemes of learning are available in a Google Shared Drive so that lessons are resourced and can be shared with students via the Google Classroom. This allows for students working outside the classroom to be able to access all curriculum lessons and keep up with their peers. We are proud that this reflects the collaborative and inclusive nature of our subject teaching and our support for both staff and students.

TEACHING FACILITIES

The Departments benefit from a suite of rooms where specialists teach. The suite is equipped with projectors and all staff have their own Chromebook. Visualisers are shared amongst teaching staff. Adjacent to the English classroom is a central office for staff use. In addition, two media classrooms/editing suites are equipped with relevant software. The main teaching room has two projectors and a surround sound cinema system installed. Pupils are actively encouraged to use the facilities of the well resourced Learning Resource Centre.

CURRICULUM

Teaching at Key Stage 3 is based on the National Curriculum Programme of Study. We review schemes of work regularly so that they are relevant, challenging and appropriate for our students' needs.

At Key Stage 4 students follow the AQA specification for English Language and Literature and EDUQAS for Media Studies. Detailed schemes of work are in place for all specifications. Our students approach their study of English through a variety of mediums, which makes the materials taught accessible and engaging whilst encouraging them to develop as independent learners, with a love of reading. We aim to give students the opportunity to go to the theater to see performances of set texts, or visit poets/writers in a forum to hear them speak about their work.

In KS5 we offer: English Literature using the OCR specification and English Lang/Lit using the AQA specification; A Level Media Studies and A Level Film Studies use the EDUQAS specification. A-Level students are all encouraged to benefit from the range of Film and Media related activities across the school. We offer theatre visits and opportunities to attend lectures on set texts or to hear poets/writers speaking about their work. Many of our students continue their study of English, Media and Film at university.

Assessment for Learning is fully entrenched across all three key stages. Subject teachers in English and Media Studies use a range of assessment processes, including peer and self assessment.

The English department works with the leadership team to support the delivery of the transition programme in place for students moving from KS2 to 3.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

We actively encourage students to enter poetry and writing competitions; several of our students have had poems published. We are always looking to introduce poetry or writing competitions to encourage students' creativity. The KS3 Creative Writing Club allows students to develop their creative writing skills. Our Sixth Form students take responsibility for our superb school publication: The Stag Mag.

Every year we run the Carnegie with a number of students. This is always a popular club and students are keen to read the nominated novels and share their views through written reviews and discussion. We are continuing to liaise with staff in the Learning Resource Centre, so that enrichment activities such as 'Storytelling' events and visiting authors, inspire a love of reading.

Theatre trips are not only arranged for studied texts but also for enrichment. Previous trips have included: An Inspector Calls, The Tempest, The Kite Runner, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, and for a visiting company to perform extracts from Shakespeare's Macbeth.

FUTURE

The departments are forward looking and continuously seeking new resources and strategies to improve the quality of both learning and teaching. We are highly regarded in the school and constantly seek to better our practice for students and our own professional development. We have high standards for ourselves and students; teaching and learning is tailored to meet individual needs and all our students aspire to achieve excellent results.

Tring School
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