



# English

## Head of English: Mr Edward Low

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### Why King's?

#### Facilities

- Bright, attractive rooms facing College Green
- Interactive whiteboards throughout the department

#### Highlights

- Theatre visits, literary festival visits, lectures and competitions

## Academic Performance

**74% A\*-B**

English Literature A-level

**76% 9-7**

English Literature and English Language IGCSE

The department has two distinct but complementary aims:

- To teach, practise and develop in all pupils the skills required to read a wide range of non-literary texts with understanding and to communicate effectively in spoken and written English;
- To inspire in all pupils a love of English literature and to provide the means by which they might understand and respond to that literature more deeply.

The English Department is based in a very attractive former boarding house in the Cathedral Close. Its eight classrooms, all of which are equipped with interactive whiteboards, provide for the department's teaching. There is also extensive

book storage, a sixth form library, a departmental office and an ICT classroom which is used for English teaching along with other subjects. We also work closely with the excellent school library. There are currently nine members of the English Department, five of whom are part-time.

English is taught to mixed ability form groups in Year 7 ("Lower Fourth") and upper, middle and lower streamed groups in Year 8 ("Upper Fourth"), with a mix of Language and literature in each year's programme of study.

English classes are banded by ability in Years 9, 10 and 11 ("Lower Remove", "Upper Remove" and "Fifth Form"). We currently follow the Edexcel IGCSE course in both English



language and English literature with Years 9, 10 and 11, with the course for Year 9 providing the foundation for success for IGCSE performance..

English is a popular subject in the Sixth Form, where the Edexcel English literature course is offered. Two or three mixed-ability sets are usual in each year, with an average of over twenty students studying the subject in each year group.

In 2023, at A-level, 74% of students achieved A\*-B grades. At IGCSE in English Language 70% of all students achieved grades between 9 and 7 (A\*/A grades) and in IGCSE English Literature 70% of pupils achieved grades between 9 and 7 (A\*/A grades).

Our objectives in all our teaching are to equip our pupils to:

- Communicate clearly, accurately and effectively in speech and writing, including the use of appropriate information and communication technology, in a variety of situations and for a variety of purposes;
- Comprehend what they hear and read and to convey that understanding to others;
- Think logically and express their ideas on an extensive range of issues;
- Appreciate literature in a wide variety of forms, including prose, poetry, drama and literary non-fiction;
- Extend their imagination through an acquaintance with others' experience, culture, emotions and their awareness of the world in which they live;
- Understand something of their own language: its history, variations, registers and styles appropriate for different purposes;
- Meet the language demands made of them in later life.

All members of the department are very much involved with the extensive extracurricular programme of the department, including activities such as extension classes, creative writing clubs, competitions and much more. Each year there is a busy programme of theatre visits, visiting speakers, educational workshops and other trips for all year groups; in previous years, for example, we have organised a residential Sixth Form revision weekend in Haworth to prepare students for their examination in A-level English literature and attended prestigious literary festivals like the Hay-on-Wye festival.

“ The department is friendly and the staff enthusiastic, experienced and passionate about literature ”



For further information please visit the English pages on our website