

English

Welcome to the English Department at St Richard Gwyn.

Teaching Staff

Mrs R. Park – Curriculum Leader

Mrs L. Jones – Deputy Curriculum Leader

Miss H. Larkin

Miss E. Daniels

Miss E. Whittaker

Mr M. Davies

“Literature fires the imagination and inspires creativity”. This statement, taken from the new Curriculum for Wales, is at the heart of everything we do here in the English department at St Richard Gwyn. As teachers, we are passionate about literature and our aim is to make our students share our passion. Through our study of fiction and non-fiction texts, we ensure that this passion, in turn, develops pupils’ English language skills of reading, writing and oracy. The teaching of these three disciplines of English provide pupils with the necessary skills to succeed in the subjects they study in school and also excel in the path they choose to follow once they leave compulsory education.

KS3

The English department takes a thematic approach to KS3 with pupils studying literary fiction and non fiction texts on a range of topics, from survival to Dystopian literature, the natural world to conspiracy theories, and communication to conflict. The study of challenging and inspiring literary fiction and non fiction texts allows pupils to develop their skills in reading, writing and oracy as well as developing their cultural literacy so that they are aware of and sensitive to the community that they are a part of.

KS4

At KS4, all pupils study for the WJEC qualifications in English language and English literature. English language builds upon and develops the skills pupils are equipped with in their KS3 lessons so that they are confident in reading and responding to challenging texts as well as writing and talking about sophisticated topics in an academic and mature manner. The study of the English literature syllabus refines pupils’ analytical and evaluative skills and allows us to continue to focus pupils on a range of social, cultural and political issues so that they can continue to be informed citizens in the world in which they live.

KS5

At KS5, the department offers an A level in English literature where pupils are taught by experienced staff who share their expertise and passion for literature. In Year 12, pupils study the poetry of Owen Sheers and Seamus Heaney as well as “Jane Eyre” and “A Streetcar Named Desire”. In Year 13, they will go on to study “King Lear” and “The Merchant’s Prologue and Tale” as examination texts alongside studying a pre-2000 and post-2000 text of their choice for a 2500-3500 word assignment.

