

English

Welcome to English!

In the English Department we feel passionately about the crucial role English has in education and society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others, and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them.

Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature especially plays a key role in such development. Reading enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know.

Our vision as a department is to create students who have developed strong skills in communication, both written and verbal and who are able to read and write with fluency and confidence.

Our Curriculum

At Key Stage 3 all students study English eight hours a fortnight. All students in Year 7 and 8 will have two timetabled reading lessons, where they will take part in the Accelerated Reader program. The aim of this program is to encourage students to read for pleasure and to develop their reading skills. In their other lessons students will study a novel, poetry, Shakespeare, non-fiction and media and complete an author study. Reading and writing skills are taught alongside these texts.

At Key Stage 4 all students take GCSEs in both English Language and English Literature. Both are 100% final examinations and require students to read and respond to a range of texts and be able to write for a variety of audiences and purposes.

At Key Stage 5 students study the Edexcel A-level syllabus in English Literature. The course includes a coursework element and students read a range of literature texts to prepare for the examinations.

Enrichment and extracurricular Activities

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated fiction library here at Carshalton Boys. This is open every morning from 7:30am and until 4pm every day. It also remains open during break and lunch. Many students take advantage of the opportunity to curl up in a quiet space and get lost in a book. The library catalogue is kept up to date with a range of new and high quality fiction.

Alongside this, we regularly offer students the opportunity to work with published authors including William Hussey, Chris Bradford and Melvin Burgess.

The department also runs Skills Mastery sessions, an online program to help students secure grammar, punctuation and spelling skills to enhance their written work.

In Key Stage 5, students are given the opportunity to be members of Theatre Club where they will attend a range of high quality and thought-provoking productions at world-class venues across London. More than fifty visits have been run by the club since it started in 2008.

Destinations

Over the years we've had a number of students studying English at university: either on its own, or in combination with related subjects such as history, theatre or creative writing.

We currently have students applying for Russell Group and other universities to read English.

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