



# Malmesbury School

## ENGLISH & MEDIA FACULTY

The English and Media Faculty has fifteen teachers who work extremely well together as a team.

The faculty comprises a suite of seven classrooms, and two computer rooms, and a faculty office. All classrooms are equipped with IWB and storage facilities. The school boasts a pleasant, well-stocked Independent Learning Centre and the faculty works to ensure pupils have regular access to new and challenging literature. All Year 7 & 8 classes have at least one lesson a fortnight booked in the Library for independent reading.

Each member of the faculty has responsibilities for developing an area of the curriculum and we enjoy sharing resources and discussing current issues in education regularly in Development and Faculty meetings. Our priorities for 2020/21 will be to continue to focus on the changes to the KS3 curriculum; to improve achievement in literacy across all key stages; and to continue to develop effective intervention programmes of study.

Our policy has been to teach Year 7 and 8 classes in mixed ability groups, and we set according to need as opposed to a strict ability grouping from Year 9 upwards. Years 9, 10 and 11 are blocked in half-year groups for setting purposes. All Year 9, 10 and 11 students receive 4 hours tuition each week. Current Year 10 students are studying the new AQA GCSE syllabus for both English Literature and English Language. We also make use of AQA's Step Up to English for targeted students. The faculty believes in setting wide reading at the heart of study. In September we will bring Media Studies GCSE back into the Options Programme for Years 10 to 11.

There has been a tradition of examination success with students regularly achieving 75 - 86% Grade 9 to Grade 4 for both subjects at GCSE. Excellent results are also achieved at A Level. At the moment we offer English Literature, AQA syllabus A, English Language, OCR as two year A level courses, and Film Studies AS, WJEC as part of the school's Excellence Programme in Year 12. Teachers offer in class support for underachieving students and the Faculty works well with Learning Support section and TAs. As part of the Athelstan Academy, there are opportunities for teachers to visit other schools and work with other English teachers to share best practice.

We are keen to support students' learning further by arranging theatre trips, after school clubs and revision/study days. We also run an Advanced Placement programme as part of the after school clubs.

We have a clear vision for the success of all our pupils which is founded on the belief:  
*"Reading as a source of understanding and pleasure; writing as best developed by having something to say; and literature as a window to a wider human experience – who we are, how we may be and how others are interestingly different. English offers youngsters of all abilities a doorway to understanding, fulfilment and communication"*

The English and Media faculty is a friendly and supportive group, and we look forward to welcoming you to the team.

**Pierrette Sims Senior Curriculum Leader**

**December 2019**

