

## SUBJECT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

### ENGLISH

English is one of the leading subject areas in our Leading Edge School. Examination results have been among the highest in the school in recent years.

Barnhill Community High School is a place where student success is at the heart of all that we do. As a school we are positioned in the top 13% for progress 8 nationally with a score of +0.42. English is one of our strongest subject areas and is a hugely popular subject with students. Many students go on to study English 'A' Level in our vibrant sixth form.

The English Curriculum Area at Barnhill Community High School has a superb record of achievement:

- Top 11% nationally for high prior attainers progress. +0.60 progress 8 score.
- Top 20% nationally for disadvantaged students. +0.20 progress 8 score.
- Top 18% nationally for Mathematics progress 8 score. +0.42 progress 8 score.
- Grade 7s and higher 25% (National average 20%).
- Grade 9s and higher 4% (National average 2.5%).

We are moving rapidly towards our goal of becoming an outstanding school and we are looking for an expert English teacher to join our team on this journey.

We are looking to appoint a teacher to join what is a successful curriculum area. We are looking for someone who is enthused by the opportunities presented by joining an increasingly successful school and a forward-looking curriculum area. Equally, though, we are looking for someone who is aware of and realistic about the challenges presented by working in a West London comprehensive with a broad and very mixed intake.

Below are some details about the Curriculum Area. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or would like to visit before submitting an application. Mr John Jones, Head of School, is more than happy to discuss any questions you may have.

#### **The Curriculum Area**

English is a large and very well resourced Curriculum Area that occupies a purpose built area of the school. Each room has an interactive whiteboard and ample storage space. All teachers have their own teaching room. We have dedicated ICT resources such as; Chrome book trollies, access to the library and our 'Thinking Reading' room – a programme that is taught by expert tutors.

There are currently 13 members of staff in the Curriculum Area, led by the Director of English. The Curriculum Area also has a Lead Practitioner who supports with teaching and learning, a Deputy Curriculum Leader for Key Stage 3 and an Assistant Curriculum Leader for Key Stage 5. Other staff benefit from temporary management bursaries for projects within the Curriculum Area, such as oracy, interventions and media. We are always looking for managerial potential in our staff.

#### **Years 7 and 8**

Students are organised according to their literacy skills in years 7 and 8. They study a collection of literacy based subjects in the same classes to ensure their skills are supported and challenged holistically. This includes English, history, geography and modern foreign languages. Our highest ability group – Gifted and More Able - is taught separately on an accelerated learning pathway. Students who have a particular learning need are taught by specialist primary staff in our Access group.

Full schemes of work and lesson notes are available for all year groups. Schemes of work are planned to develop the skills and competencies needed for GCSE English.

**Years 9 to 11**

The Curriculum Area has operated a three year Key Stage 4 for a number of years now. The revised structure includes the study of the new 9-1 AQA English Language and Literature specifications. Students study 10 hours a fortnight to ensure their English skills are developed to the fullest possible extent of their potentials.

Staff also have the option to complete paid intervention classes each Saturday or during 'Breakfast club'.

Creative Digital Media is offered as an option at BTec. Close links with ICT and Technology allow students to explore audio-visual and ICT based media. This has been particularly valuable when working on the practical assignments, making use of packages such as Movie-Maker within our Apple Mac suite.

**KEY STAGE 5**

At Key Stage 5, the combined AQA Specification B for English Language and Literature course has been taught over the previous six years and we now teach the separate Literature course.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

Curriculum Area activities include creative writing workshops, theatre trips, study skills workshops, the Jack Petchey speech competition, poetry writing competitions, GCSE and A level conferences and revision workshops by the principal examiner for A level.