



## **ENGLISH AT PARK VALE ACADEMY**

*Thank you for your interest in Park Vale Academy. I hope this document will give you an insight into what we are about. The successful candidate will join a developing faculty with a vast amount of collective skill and experience. This reflects the effort and talent of the faculty as a whole.*

### English at Key Stage 3

For the English Faculty, Key Stage 3 is where we begin to 'shape' our students. This is the point at which good practice is established and the foundation for future success is laid down. We see English as a coherent progression through the various stages, with our prime concerns at this point being to encourage our students to enjoy the subject, to gain confidence in their developing skills and to prepare them for the work to come at Key Stage 4 and beyond.

In Years 7 and 8, students are set according to ability. In both years we work closely with the Learning Support Department, which provides additional support to our students with special education needs. These students are taught in smaller groups and follow the curriculum used within mainstream English classes as far as possible.

Developing our students' reading and writing is a major aspect of our work. Our teaching is very much skill based and so much of the lessons objectives are based upon specific reading and writing Assessment Objectives of clear AOs allows the department to closely track the different forms of progress our students make and support further achievements.

We are well supported at Park Vale Academy and work closely with the academy's library. We have a wide range of books we can offer to our students as a faculty, providing us with many new and exciting opportunities for teaching. All Year 7 and Year 8 students are on the Accelerated Reader programme and visit the library at least once a week.

### English at Key Stage 4

Students of English at Park Vale Academy follow the AQA syllabus. All GCSE students follow a course of English and English Literature. Entry Level and Functional Skills qualifications are also available to students who require them.

We have developed a long term plan which allows us to use Year 11 to suit the needs of our students; ensuring that this final Key Stage 4 year can either be used to focus more on the Literature GCSE or the requirements for progression within the Language GCSE.

### Professional Development

We regard ourselves as a friendly, supportive and forward thinking faculty that consistently seeks to 'move people on', no matter where they are in their careers.

We are committed to reflective practices that seek to bring the best out of all of us.

Alissa Mugaseth  
Head of English, Park Vale Academy