

Thank you for your interest in the position of Teacher of English at Bishop Challoner Catholic College. Below you will find some further information regarding the application process and the department. If you have any subject specific questions or would like to have an informal conversation about the post, please contact Ali Marsh, the Head of Department, at a.marsh@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk or on 0121 441 6130.



The application process

Candidates should submit a completed CES application form, accompanied by a letter of application outlining how they fulfil the person specification. They should address it, by post or email, to Tracey Ingram at t.ingram@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk or Bishop Challoner Catholic College, Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG.

The deadline for applications is **Monday 28th January 2019**

The College

Bishop Challoner Catholic College was opened in 1953 as Birmingham's first mixed Catholic Secondary School.

The College has continued to go from strength to strength and is now recognised as one of the most successful schools in Birmingham. Bishop Challoner Catholic College ensures that the high quality education we offer prepares our young people for opportunities for life in fast advancing technological modern society. In the summer, 81% of students achieved 9-4 in Maths and English putting us among the highest performing comprehensives in Birmingham.

Our well-qualified and dedicated staff are fully committed to ensuring excellent pupil progress from Year 7 to Year 13 in all areas of the curriculum and in the extensive range of extra-curricular activities.

The college continues to retain those traditional values for which we have always been held in great esteem: a friendly college, excellent learning support and pastoral care, strong parental links, good discipline and high moral standards.

Most of all, Bishop Challoner is a Roman Catholic College whose mission is to promote the moral, religious, academic, social and spiritual development of all pupils.

The English Department's philosophy

With the advent of the new curricula at key stage four and five, as well as a new assessment framework being brought in at key stage three, the department met and decided what the new curriculum should look like. We agreed that Bishop Challoner's new English curriculum should be:

- 1 Engaging
- 2 Creative
- 3 Challenging
- 4 Rigorous
- 5 Exploratory

The Department

The Department is made up of fourteen highly qualified and committed teachers. There are eight designated teaching rooms, all of which are well resourced and have interactive whiteboards and audio equipment. Overall responsibility lies with the Head of the Department. She is supported by key stage coordinators at KS3, KS4 and KS5. The Department is proud of its innovative and dynamic teaching and three of its members are Lead Teachers. Four of the Department also teach Media Studies, which is a popular option at key stage four and five.

The students

There are roughly 180 students in each year group and these are set by ability into seven groups: X1, X2, X3, Y1, Y2, Y3, W1, W2.

English at key stage 3

Students at key stage three follow a rich and varied curriculum, ranging from Shakespeare to Gothic Horror. Wide and independent reading is encouraged; library inductions, reading lessons and discreet Writing lessons and the Carnegie prize are utilised to facilitate this. 'Synchronised sentences' is a whole school initiative which the department leads on and which are the bedrock of students' learning in English. To ensure students are 'GCSE ready' more challenging texts from the literary canon have recently been introduced and include works by Charles Dickens, HG Wells, Robert Louis Stevenson and George Orwell.

English Language and Literature at key stage 4

At GCSE, students follow AQA's new English Language specification (8700). This is taught in conjunction with AQA's English Literature specification (8702). We stock every text specified in the specification, but students currently study *Romeo and Juliet*, *Frankenstein*, *An Inspector Calls* and poetry in the Power and Conflict cluster.

English Literature at key stage 5

Post sixteen, students follow Edexcel's English Literature specification (9ET0). This is a perennially popular A Level – easily the most popular at Bishop Challoner. Students study a range of writers including F. Scott Fitzgerald, Bram Stoker, Sarah Waters, Tennessee Williams and William Shakespeare. Again, despite the heavy numbers, students enjoy considerable success and outperform schools with a similar cohort.

Please visit the School website

For more specifics about the texts and the sequence they are taught in, please visit the English page of the school website: <http://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/English>