



# DANES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

ST CLEMENT DANES SCHOOL

CROXLEY DANES SCHOOL



## FACULTY SUMMARY

<b>Faculty</b>	English
<b>Subject</b>	English Language and Literature
<b>Date</b>	December 2016

### The Danes Educational Trust

The Danes Educational Trust comprises two schools: St Clement Danes School, an Outstanding school, and Croxley Danes School, a new secondary school opening in September 2017 using St Clement Danes as its blueprint. In its first year of opening, Croxley Danes School will operate from within the St Clement Danes site in Chorleywood; thereafter, it will move to its permanent site in Croxley Green, 5 miles away. Dr Josephine Valentine has been Headteacher of St Clement Danes School for 19 years. She is a National Leader in Education, a DfE Advisor and will have oversight of both schools as Executive Headteacher. Mr Stephen Thompson will be Headteacher of Croxley Danes School. If appointed, you will benefit from teaching within an established, outstanding institution, whilst also contributing to the education of the first cohort of students in a brand new school at an exciting stage in its development.

### The English Faculty

The English Faculty at St Clement Danes is energetic, hard-working and high-performing: it values professionalism and challenge. Consisting of 15 teachers including a Head of Faculty, three Key Stage Coordinators and two Specialist Leaders of Education, the Faculty has a broad range of experience and backgrounds, making for a supportive and aspirational professional atmosphere. Staff are actively encouraged to contribute to the life of the Faculty and to further their own professional development. St Clement Danes is characterised by its positive and rewarding relationships with students and colleagues; nowhere is this more evident than in English.

### Student Outcomes

Students achieve outstanding outcomes in English. In June 2015, 88% of students achieved A\*-C in GCSE English Language with 99% achieving A\*-C in GCSE English Literature. In June 2016, 93% of students achieved A\*-C in English Language or Literature. Nationally, the Faculty's results were around the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile for Value Added at KS4 in both 2015 and 2016. Students' excellent outcomes are underlined by the fact that in June 2015, 93% of students made at least expected progress between KS2 and the end of KS4, whilst 57% of students made more than expected progress. These successes resulted in the Faculty being invited to present its approach to teaching and learning at a Challenge Partners national conference. The success continues at KS5: in 2015, 67% of students achieved A\*-B in English Literature and 84% achieved A\*-B in English Language. In 2016, 72% of students achieved A\*-B in English Literature with 73% achieving A\*-B in English Language, making good progress in terms of Level 3 Value Added scores.

## **Curriculum**

The Faculty prides itself on offering a stimulating and aspirational curriculum at all Key Stages. At KS3, students follow a creative, broad and challenging curriculum, which has recently been reviewed and updated in response to the revised National Curriculum and new GCSE specifications. The Faculty places a high value on the effective teaching of skills through wide-ranging and inspiring content. At KS4, the Faculty benefits from ten teaching groups in both Year 10 and Year 11 which accommodate 210 students per cohort (seven form entry). Most students study English Language and Literature qualifications with a small number studying English Language only. The Faculty has access to a supernumerary qualified English teacher who is utilised to offer targeted support for specific student groups in KS3 and KS4. St Clement Danes offers both A Level English Literature and English Language at KS5, allowing for students to choose qualifications which suit their needs and interests. Both subjects are popular, resulting in high levels of student uptake and enthusiasm. Many students look to study English at high-calibre universities, including Russell Group institutions and Oxbridge.

## **Facilities**

The English space - situated at the heart of the school in the main building - is based around the English Central Area and a large English Faculty staff workroom, which facilitates collaborative working relationships. The English Central Area is a sizeable room, accessible from all English classrooms, which comfortably offers enough workspace and computers to accommodate 30 students. The English classrooms are maintained to a high standard and each is equipped with an interactive whiteboard. There are also two dedicated English classrooms in the Sixth Form block. From September 2017, English lessons for Croxley Danes students will be delivered in refurbished, permanent classrooms within the dedicated Croxley Danes School block.

## **Extra-curricular**

The English Faculty offers a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities at all Key Stages which encourage students to develop their love of the subject outside the classroom. In addition to a range of regular clubs and competitions, the Faculty is particularly passionate about public speaking, running both an inter-house internal event and competing successfully in several national competitions. English students have also welcomed a number of outside speakers and authors in recent years for talks, literary lunches and performances; an established BBC journalist, the Editor of *Marie Claire*, a champion performance poet, Charlie Higson and Carol Ann Duffy have been notable highlights.