



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Our Mission

The English Faculty aims to make all students competent articulate communicators, critical and imaginative thinkers and autonomous, reflective and creative learners. The study of English enables students to recognise and use a diversity of approaches and texts to meet the growing array of literacy demands, including higher-order social, aesthetic and cultural literacy. Through reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing experience, ideas and values, students are encouraged to adopt a critical approach to all texts and to distinguish the qualities of texts developing an enjoyment of English and an appreciation of its value and role in learning.



Culture of Thinking

'**Culture of Thinking**' and innovative pedagogy is used to ensure a differentiated curriculum enables all students to reach their personal best. Covey's '**Leader in Me**' is used to ensure students develop personal skills which facilitate learning and success not only in English but across all curriculum areas. Specific focuses such as 'be proactive', 'begin with the end in mind' and 'put first things first' are ways of enabling students to take control of their own learning using outcomes as a way of directing their study and preparation. Further 'think win-win', 'seek first to understand then to be understood' and 'synergise' focus attention on interpersonal skills and the value of teamwork. Finally, 'sharpen the saw' highlights the imperative of regular and strategic practice.



Masada College

9-15 Link Road

St Ives NSW 2075

Tel: (02) 9449 3744

www.masada.nsw.edu.au

Contact:

Mrs Karen McEwen

kmcewen@staff.masada.nsw.edu.au



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

Incursions / Excursions

All year groups are exposed to a variety of Incursions/Excursions appropriate to their respective units of work. Some examples in previous years are as follows:

- CyberBully – play exploring issues of bullying and cyber-bullying
- Indigenous performers
- School Performance Tours 'The Shoe-Horn Sonata'
- Sydney Writers' Festival
- HSC English Teachers' Association Lectures/Workshops
- Bard on the Beach 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

Significant Annual Events

1. HSC English Extension II Showcase Evening
2. Masada Public Speaking Competition
3. Book Week Author Visit and Workshop
4. HSC English Extension Workshop with University Academic



Competitions

1. Masada Public Speaking Competition
2. Masada Creative Writing Competition
3. The Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year Competition
4. Writenow! Competition – Sydney Writers' Festival
5. Whitlam Institute What Matters? Competition
6. Dorothea Mackellar Writing Competition
7. Write4Fun Competition



Achievements

Masada does consistently well for English across all courses in the HSC over the last ten years. Some notable achievements are as follows:

2016 - 60% of HSC course were in the top two bands

2015 - One student placed 4th in the State in Advanced English

2014 - 80% of Advanced students were in the top two Bands

- One student placed 4th in the State in English Extension 2 and the student's Major Work Critical Response has been published in *Young Writers Showcase*.

2013 - 85% of Advanced students were in the top two Bands

2012 - 98% of Advanced students were in the two top Bands

- One student nominated for *Writers Showcase 2012*

- One student achieved an impressive Band 6 in Standard English (166 awarded in the state from more than 31,000 candidates)

2009 - all HSC Advanced students achieved a Band 5 or a Band 6 results

2006 - one of our student's Major Work short story was published in the *Writers Showcase 6*

2005 - 5th in the State in English