

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CLASSICS DEPARTMENT MARCH 2019



Founded in 1598

The department consists of one full time member of staff, the Head of department with support from staff in other departments. The successful candidate will be required to teach Latin to at least GCSE level and Ancient History to A Level.

In Year 7 all boys are taught a programme of Classical Studies for one period a fortnight, following an in house course on the History and Myth of the Classical Greek world. All boys in Years 8 and 9 study Latin with a one-hour period per week, following a combination of 'Imperium' and the 'Cambridge Latin Course'.

At the end of the Year 9 the main options for GCSE are chosen. Typically, about 15 boys opt to continue with Latin in Years 10 and 11. Results at GCSE have been pleasing, with a fair number achieving A* and A grades following the OCR specification (Language and Literature Papers). Similarly, typically 20 boys choose to study Ancient History following the OCR specification, studying The Persians, Alexander the Great, Hannibal and The Early Kings of Rome and the Early Republic. Again, with recently very pleasing results.

In the Sixth Form the department offers both Latin and Ancient History to A Level. In the context of a "minority" subject take up at A Level has been pleasingly healthy. Every year a number of A Level students have gone on to read Classics or Ancient History at University, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Teaching in the Sixth Form in both Latin and Ancient History is shared between the Head of Department and other members of staff. In Latin, the teaching is split between the Prose and Verse, with language work covered as part of the Prose. The Ancient History syllabus follows 'Sparta and the Greek World' and 'The Elven Caesars'. Throughout the course, emphasis is put on analysing original sources, mainly the writings of historians, biographers and poets who were contemporary to the periods about which they wrote.

Classics lessons are taught in two adjoining classrooms both equipped with data projectors, visualizers and Apple TVs. The department is well equipped with a range of textbooks and other digital resources including the E-CLC. There are many extra-curricular opportunities, including Greek club, theatre trips and lectures.