

ENGLISH

English – and reading in particular – opens new worlds to students and teaches them to communicate and to understand their own, and other people's, communities and contexts.

In the English Department, we are all passionate about the subject and enthusiastic about teaching. We work together to find every opportunity to make English as exciting and accessible as it can be and show the students how much we love it!

Over the five years, students study a wide variety of texts and respond with imaginative pieces of their own.

KS3

In KS3, we cover the following topics:

Year 7

- Term 1 – Essential Ingredients
- Term 2 – Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream
- Term 3 – Victorian Crime Writing
- Term 4 – Poetry (other cultures and for performance)
- Term 5 - Non-Fiction Texts
- Term 6 – Novel Study

Year 8

- Term 1 – The Gothic Genre
- Term 2 – The Hunger Games
- Term 3 – Poetry ('England' poetry and for performance)
- Term 4 – Comparison of Texts
- Term 5 – Non-Fiction Reading and Writing
- Term 6 – Cruise Ship Creative Writing

Year 9

- Term 1 – Shakespeare: Macbeth
- Term 2 – Media Advertising and Gender
- Term 3 & 4 – War Synoptic Unit
- Term 5 – Exam Skills
- Term 6 – Foundation Literature Study

KS4

GCSE ENGLISH (AQA) – 2 for 1: Students will be awarded both a Language and a Literature GCSE.

Language Units

Paper 1 Language (1 hours 45 minutes, 50%)

- Analysis of a fiction text (shorter and longer questions)
- An extended writing question (descriptive or narrative)

Paper 2 Language (1 hour 45 minutes, 50%)

- Analysis of 2 non-fiction texts (shorter and longer questions)
- An extended writing question (expressing a viewpoint)

Paper 3 Language – Spoken Language (A separate mark)

- Presenting
- Responding to questions and feedback
- Use of Standard English

Literature Units

Paper 1 Literature (1 hour 45 minutes, 40%)

- Analytical essay on a Shakespeare Play
- Analytical essay on a 19th Century Novel

Paper 2 Literature (2 hours 15 minutes, 60%)

- Analytical essay on a modern text (either prose or a play)
- An essay comparing two of the poems from the anthology
- A response to an unseen poem and then compared with further poem

Order of Units – Year 10

- Term 1 – Poetry (seen and unseen)
- Term 2 – Language Paper 1 (fiction reading and writing)
- Term 3 – An Inspector Calls - Priestley
- Term 4 – Language Paper 2 (non-fiction reading and writing)
- Term 5 – Romeo and Juliet - Shakespeare
- Term 6 – Speaking and Listening task

Order of Units – Year 11

- Terms 1 and 2 – Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde – Stevenson
- Terms 3, 4, 5 and 6 – Revision

Extra-curricular Opportunities

Debate Club – In Debate Club, students learn how to express their opinions in a formal setting and compete to show how powerful their rhetoric is. They also are given the chance to compete at a national competition.

Mock Trial Competition – This competition is open to year 8 and 9 students. The students take part in mock trials inside magistrates' courts and crown courts using specially written cases, in the roles of magistrates, defendants, witnesses, lawyers, legal advisers and ushers, giving them a unique opportunity to gain knowledge and awareness of the legal system and how it works.

Creative Writing Club – As well as having the chance to enter various competitions, creative writing club is an opportunity for students to share their writing with like-minded students away from the class room. It is a calm and supportive environment for our budding writers.

Peer Reading Project – This gives older students to develop younger students' confidence through peer-to-peer learning. This also develops their leadership skills.