

Year 11 GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

Studying English and English literature is incredibly valuable to our students' futures. The knowledge and skills developed opens doors to learning, helping them grow both personally and professionally. Whilst nurturing communication skills essential for today's global environment and careers opportunities, English also opens worlds of creativity and inspiration helping students become better citizens through an increased depth of thought, a heightened sense of empathy and ability to express their opinions.

| | Autumn: | Spring: | Summer: |
|-------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| Half term 1 | Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet The students will begin their GCSE English Literature course studying Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Building upon their knowledge of Shakesperean texts studied at KS3, they will explore character, plot and themes within the play and consider how context plays an integral part in how we better understand characters and their actions. | For the Spring term and Summer half term 1, students will begin revising both Language and Literature, with a focus of answering exam questions and building on their knowledge and skills. | |
| Half term 2 | Practising how to interpret, annotate and plan extended responses linked to a given extract, will prepare students for their Literature GCSE. | | |
| | Important vocabulary: | Important vocabulary: | Important vocabulary: |
| | Banishment Virtuous Sonnet Stichomythia Fate Tragedy Patriarchy Soliloquy | Iambic pentameter Prologue Chorus Dichotomy Characterisation Patriarchy | |

Key staff contacts:

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What are our curriculum aims for your child in year 10?

- ✓ To develop an appreciation and love of reading, and read increasingly challenging material independently
- ✓ To enhance vocabulary so that they can express their opinions creatively and prepare them for life beyond Key Stage 4
- ✓ To understand how writers use language, form and structure to present political views, feelings and emotions
- ✓ To develop your child's written expression, heighten their sense of empathy and broaden their knowledge of the wider world
- ✓ To develop writing styles and to develop meaningful viewpoints about our world and pivotal events

How can I help my child be successful in English and English literature?

- ✓ Encourage your child to read independently and complete shared reading at home
- ✓ Research the features of Greek tragedy and comedy with your child
- ✓ Watch productions of Romeo and Juliet, An Inspector Calls and A Christmas Carol
- ✓ Explore the key vocabulary often with your child to help them transfer it to long term memory
- ✓ Provide opportunities for your child to read a range of non fiction texts and articles
- ✓ Practise tricky spellings together

How will you assess my child's progress?

Assessment of learning takes many forms. We assess how your child is learning through their written and oral responses.

In English we value the importance of providing students with feedback that enables them to progress. We therefore provide formative feedback that requires a response from our students. This may be a short response to correct an error or a longer response to improve a section of an extended piece of work. Typically, students complete this work in green pen and are then able to reflect clearly on where they have made progress.

Students appreciate the importance of practising extended writing pieces. We set, mark and feedback on 'mini -assessments' regularly to enable them to track their progress in different disciplines.

We also complete a final assessment piece once every term to provide a 'snap shot' of the skills the students have gained and those which still require work. This is used, along with their classwork and feedback, to inform the reports you receive home.

All Key Stage 4 students will also complete formal trial exam papers to give them the experience of sitting exams in the hall before their final GCSE examinations.

Please feel free to contact us to discuss our assessment policy in depth.