

# English

## Brief overview and aims of teaching English

In English we aim to fuse the love and value of reading with the functional skills required for life. At Key Stage 3, students have the opportunity to develop and expand their knowledge and skills of reading and writing through a diverse study of Literature and Language texts. This is further supported by fortnightly Reading for Pleasure lessons in the Library and our Mind the Gap strategy to ensure all students have closed all the gaps in basic literacy. At Key Stage 4, students focus initially on the study of GCSE English Literature taking the external examinations at the end of Year 10. In Year 11, students then focus solely on the study of GCSE English Language.

## KS3

### Topics taught

	Y7	Y8
Autumn ½ term 1	School Days: Literature 'Boy' by Roald Dahl	Dystopia: Literature 'The Hunger Games'
Autumn ½ term 2	School Days: Language Reading and Narrative Writing	Dystopia: Language Reading and Descriptive and Narrative Writing
Spring ½ term 1	Family: Literature 'Romeo & Juliet' By William Shakespeare	New Worlds: Literature 'The Tempest' by William Shakespeare
Spring ½ term 2	Family: Language Reading and Viewpoint Writing	New Worlds: Language Reading and Viewpoint Writing
Summer ½ term 1	Other Cultures: Literature Poetry	Literary Heritage and the Gothic: Literature 'The Speckled Band' by Sherlock Holmes
Summer ½ term 2	Other Cultures: Language Reading and Writing	Literary Heritage and the Gothic: Language Reading and Writing

### How will students be assessed in this subject?

All students complete at least one summative half termly Milestone Assessment Piece (MAP) in either Literature, Language Reading and/or Language Writing. Assessments are completed under exam conditions with a 45-minute time limit.

### What homework is to be expected in this subject?

Homework is set fortnightly as per the whole school policy.

### What extracurricular activities /enrichment will be offered to students in this subject?

Theatre trips, University Masterclass trips, Poetry Jam, Manactco in school performances, London Trip

Any useful websites that students could use for support or extra information

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GCSEPod

[www.bbc.com/bitesize](http://www.bbc.com/bitesize)

## KS4

Exam board and specification:

AQA GCSE English Literature (8702)

AQA GCSE English Language (8700)

Exam information:

There are two papers for both Literature and Language. All students sit the same paper as there is only one tier of entry. There aren't any controlled assessments for this course.

GCSE English Language exam papers are 1 hour 45 minutes for both papers. Each paper is worth 50% of the final grade.

GCSE English Literature Paper 1: 1 hour 45 minutes. Paper 2: 2 hours 15 minutes. GCSE English Literature Paper 1 40% and Paper 2 60%.

Topics taught

	Y9	Y10	Y11
Autumn ½ term 1	Relationships: 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck	Regret and Power: 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens and Power and Conflict Poetry	GCSE English Language: Introduction to Paper 1 and Paper 2
Autumn ½ term 2	Relationships: Poetry: Moon on the Tides Anthology	Regret and Power: GCSE English Literature: Unseen Poetry and Mind the Gap	GCSE English Language: Consolidating Paper 1 and Paper 2
Spring ½ term 1	Regret: Pre-Twentieth and Modern Short Stories	GCSE English Literature: Revising Paper 1: 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol'	GCSE English Language: Mind the Gap and Revising Paper 1
Spring ½ term 2	Regret: GCSE English Literature: 'Lord of the Flies' by William Golding	GCSE English Literature: Revising Paper 2: 'Blood Brothers', Power and Conflict Poetry, Unseen Poetry	GCSE English Language: Mind the Gap and Revising Paper 2
Summer ½ term 1	Power: GCSE English Literature: 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare and Power and Conflict Poetry	GCSE English Literature: Final Revision for Paper 1 and Paper 2	GCSE English Language: Final Revision for Paper 1 and Paper 2

Summer ½ term 2	Power: GCSE English Literature: 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare and Power and Conflict Poetry	Introduction to GCSE English Language: Explorations in Creative Writing	
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How will students' progress be assessed throughout the course?

All students complete at least one summative half termly Milestone Assessment Piece (MAP) in either Literature, Language Reading and/or Language Writing. Assessments are completed under exam conditions with a 45-minute time limit.

In Years 10 and 11, students also complete 3 mocks to measure progress made and identify key areas for improvement.

What homework will students expect?

Homework is set fortnightly as per the whole school policy.

Any useful websites or information that students can use to support their learning?

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Pixl Literature App (All students will be given their own login)

[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

[www.bbc.com/bitesize](http://www.bbc.com/bitesize)