



ENGLISH

KEY STAGE 3

English is at the 'core' of the National Curriculum and although it has its own unique place on the timetable, its concerns underpin and drive the whole school curriculum. The English course emphasises the importance of accuracy and competence in the use of language in all its attainment targets: speaking and listening, reading and writing.

Pupils in Key Stage 3 follow a course designed to cover the requirements of the new programs of study, to teach them the skills necessary to achieve across the areas of: speaking and listening, reading and writing. Indeed, pupils are taught how to progress by understanding the key aspects of written communication, alongside opportunities to explore a range of texts.

At Key Stage 4 pupils follow the Eduqas GCSE examination courses in English Language and English Literature. Some pupils are also entered for the WJEC Additional English.

It is our intention to improve and develop our pupils' literacy, oral and writing skills, and to empower them, building on the foundations set at Key Stage 3, to be able to use language effectively throughout their lives. We believe that an enjoyment and appreciation of fiction, drama and poetry play an important part in developing this use of language.

YEAR 7

Autumn Term

- Class novel (Tins) and associated reading plus spoken and written response, critical and imaginative; and
- Writing skills for narrative fiction based on Jurassic Park plus non-fiction reading.

Spring Term

- Introduction to poetry – understanding poetic techniques plus written responses, both critical and imaginative; and
- Non-fiction transactional writing and non-fiction reading travel writing.

Summer Term

- Introduction to Shakespeare – considering context of his writing, as well as plays in performance and written responses; and
- Newspapers – reading and understanding modern and historical examples, creating and presenting news broadcasts.

YEAR 8

Autumn Term

- Class novel (The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas/Private Peaceful) plus spoken and written response, critical and imaginative; and
- My Life – writing and reading tasks based on teenage lives (lively articles and opinion pieces).

Spring Term

- Reading, writing and presenting poetry linked to the theme of my life and relationships; and
- Non-fiction reading based on Themes of crime and punishment including spoken and written responses.



Summer Term

- Reading and discussing short stories and writing narrative fiction based on horror and suspense; and
- Reading and discussing Shakespeare (Macbeth) and other gothic texts. Critical and imaginative written responses given.

YEAR 9

Autumn Term

- Creative writing based on Dystopia; and
- Poetry on the theme of relationships – discussion, analysis and comparison of poems.

KEY STAGE 4

All pupils will take English Language and English Literature.

In both subjects there is no longer a tiered option of entry. All pupils sit the same papers regardless of ability.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE - COURSE REQUIREMENTS

English Language is split into **3 components**:

Component 1 (40% of the qualification)

- Exam (1 hour 45 minutes).
- This includes 2 sections.
- Section A (20%) assessed for reading skills, whereby they respond to questions based on a previously unseen 20th century literary prose text.
- Section B (20%) assessed for writing skills, whereby pupils will have a choice of four titles from which they select one and produce a piece of prose/narrative writing.

Component 2 (60% of the qualification)

- Exam (2 hours).
- This includes 2 sections.
- Section A (30%) assessed for reading skills, whereby pupils respond to questions based on previously unseen non-fiction texts. One will be from the 19th century and the other text will be from the 20th century.
- Section B (30%) assessed for writing skills, whereby pupils will complete two transactional, non-fiction based tasks.

Component 3 (un-weighted)

- This does not count as part of the Language GCSE but will be acknowledged through the award of a separate certificate.
- This is internally assessed and focuses on the pupils' use of spoken language.
- Pupils will be required to complete a formal presentation or speech and respond to a series of questions or feedback.



ENGLISH LITERATURE – COURSE REQUIREMENTS

English Literature is split into **2 components**:

Component 1 (40% of the qualification)

- Written exam (2 hours).
- This includes 2 sections.
- Section A (20%) assesses pupils through their responses to one extract question and one essay question based on the reading of a Shakespeare text from the exam boards' prescribed list. We will study *Romeo & Juliet*.
- Section B (20%) assesses pupils through their responses to two questions based on poems from the WJEC Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison of poems.

NB: pupils are not permitted to take a copy of the play script or anthology into the examination.

Component 2 (60% of the qualification)

- Written exam (2 hours 30 minutes) - This includes 3 sections.
- Section A (20%) assesses pupils' responses to one source-based question on a post 1914 prose/drama text from the exam boards' prescribed list. We will study 'An Inspector Calls'.
- Section B (20%) assesses pupils' responses to one source-based question on a 19th century prose text from the exam boards' prescribed list. We will study 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'.
- Section C (20%) assesses pupils' responses to two questions on unseen poems, one of which involves comparison.
- *NB: pupils are not permitted to take copies of the texts into the examination.*

Time Scale

GCSE English Literature: This course begins in Year 9 and the actual exam takes place at the end of Year 10.

GCSE English: This exam is taken at the end of the year.
Summer Term

- Reading and discussion of *Romeo & Juliet* continued
- Reading, understanding and discussion of "The Strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde".