

ENGLISH

New GCSE Specifications

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

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Miss Richardson – Lead Teacher for KS4 English

Miss Wykes – Lead Teacher for KS3 English



COURSE SUMMARY

Combined English Language & English Literature

- Qualifications are all assessed through **examination**.
- **2 exams** for each qualification.
- Different exercise book for different exams;
 - Literature = blue x 2 (minimum).
 - Language = yellow x 1.
- Marked with new 9-1 grades.

	English Literature	English Language
Paper 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde • Macbeth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding and producing descriptive texts • Combination of both analytical and written tasks
Paper 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict poetry • Unseen poetry • An Inspector Calls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fiction - Writers' viewpoints and perspectives • Combination of both analytical and written tasks

YEAR 10	AUT 1	AUT 2	SPR 1	SPR 2	SUM 1	SUM 2
ENGLISH LANG			Paper 1	Paper 1		
ENGLISH LIT	Poetry Power & Conflict	Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde			Macbeth	Macbeth & revise Dr Jekyll
MAIN ASSESSMENT	Practice question in class	Practice question in class		TRIAL EXAM Lang Paper 1 March		TRIAL EXAM Lit Paper 1 June

YEAR 11	AUT 1	AUT 2	SPR 1	SPR 2	SUM 1	SUM 2
ENGLISH LANG		Paper 2	REVISION: Interleaved practice and revision of all skills			
ENGLISH LIT	An Inspector Calls		REVISION: Interleaved practice and revision of all texts and skills			
MAIN ASSESSMENT	Practice question in class	TRIAL EXAM Lang Paper 2 Dec	TRIAL EXAM Lit Paper 2 Feb	Continued practice of individual questions and full exams		FINAL EXAMS x 4

WHAT IS THE CURRENT PICTURE?

- The courses are very challenging:
 - Texts are more advanced EG *poetry, unseen texts*.
 - Literature exams are 'closed book'.
- Students need to remember a lot of information for a long time.
- Students responded very well to first cycle through the qualifications showing their ability to succeed in light of the very challenging courses
- ***2017 English Literature Results (9-4 = 95%, 9-7 = 42%)***
- ***2017 English Language Results (9-4 = 90%, 9-7 = 34%)***

HOW ARE WE SUPPORTING THE STUDENTS?

Notes

- Exercise book will be a revision guide.
- Text booklets to help organisation and prioritising information.
- Pre-study for poetry – independent attempt as ‘unseen’ poem first and then study in class.

Interleaving / Revisiting Texts

- Keep coming back to texts so students have to revise and remember. This strengthens memory:
 - *Eng Lit paper 1 trial exam in June Yr 10 will test Dr Jekyll which is being studied in Autumn Yr 10.*
 - *Eng Lit paper 2 trial exam in Feb of Yr 11 will test poetry which was studied in Year 10.*
- Switching topics frequently (interleaving) is proven through various studies and data to increase long-term retention.

HOW ARE WE SUPPORTING THE STUDENTS?

Feedback

- Students get detailed feedback during and following assessments.
- DIRT work – respond to targets and next steps in order to improve. Ring fence this time in class to make progress.

Revision

- 5 month period in Year 11 built into the courses.
- Will send information about recommended published revision guides in Spring term in run up to first Literature trial exam.
- Use TGi-Space to view videos, resources suitable for revision.
- Will distribute advised revision techniques EG *flash cards for key quotations.....*
- Department will produce revision guides and resources.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Encourage to keep exercise book neat:
 - *It will become a revision guide.*
 - *Glue sticks and highlighters are useful.*
- Read the texts with your child and talk to them about it:
 - *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Macbeth, An Inspector Calls, Power and Conflict poetry.*
- Attempt to see the texts live in production – RSC Macbeth 2018
- Use BBC Bitesize to revise taught material.
- We will advise about YouTube channels e.g. **Stacey Reay**.
- Revision guides: **York notes (1-9), CGP (1-9)**.
- Use TGi-Space to revise taught material.
- Build confidence and resilience.