



GCSE English Language

- CORE COMPULSORY
- NON-QUALIFICATION
- OPTION
- EBACC SUBJECT

Examination board: AQA

Course code: 8700

Subject contact: Ms J. Williams, Curriculum Leader for English

Course Description

GCSE English Language will help you to develop your ability to use English in real life contexts. The course involves assessments of two different aspects of English: reading and writing.

Students should:

- Read fluently, and with developed understanding, a wide range of texts from 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries, including literary and non-literary fiction and non-fiction as well as other writing such as reviews and journalism.
- Read, analyse and evaluate texts critically and make comparisons between texts.
- Use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve writing.
- Write effectively and coherently using standard English appropriately.
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary.
- Listen to and understand spoken language and use standard spoken English effectively; develop rhetoric and oracy skills.

Entry Requirements

None

Key Skills

Good written work and creative ability.
Students should be reading independently outside of lessons.

Cost

While there are no specific texts that students need to purchase, there will be revision guides available.

Assessment

100% examination.

50% - Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

Section A: Reading – one literature fiction text and four questions on this.

Section B: Writing – descriptive or narrative writing.

50% - Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

Section A: Reading – one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text and four questions on this.

Section B: Writing to present a viewpoint.

Careers

English Language is a core subject and may be studied at A level and University. It is also vital for other subjects, such as History or Geography where good written expression is required. It can lead into careers in the media, law, education, government and politics and creative industries.

Further education opportunities

GCSE English Language is required for most of the course's students will take in the future. Many employers expect young people to have at least a grade 5 and to demonstrate effective communication skills.

Students who achieve a grade 5, or above, can progress onto A level in English Literature or English Language and Literature.

Enrichment and Support

Exam support sessions are available weekly. Focussed revision sessions will be offered nearer the exam. Grade 9 club runs once per week and is open to all.