

Subject	English
Curriculum intent	<p>The English department aims to engage, enthuse and inspire students. The department offers a creative and challenging curriculum that places an appreciation of the English language and a strong reading culture at its heart.</p> <p>Our dedicated teachers are committed to ensuring high expectations of students are met and work collaboratively to support each other. Above all, they pride themselves on the high quality of teaching and learning that students receive.</p>
Key Stage 3	<p>Students follow the Threshold Curriculum, acquiring key and core Language and Literature skills, which are developed over a three year programme through the threshold curriculum that we have in place. We aim to instil a culture of reading within the department and across the whole school, through a range of activities and engagement with the accelerated reader programme.</p> <p>Years 7 and 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students enjoy a range of challenging texts from a variety of genres, including Philip Pullman’s play version of ‘Frankenstein’; poetry clusters; Shakespeare and his world; dystopian fiction, as well as the contemporary novel ‘Where the River Runs Gold.’ ● The Threshold Curriculum is designed to build upon the writing skills that students acquired at Key Stage 2, which they develop across two years. They create travel writing pieces from exotic corners of the world; perfect their craft as gothic writers and produce futuristic stories from other worlds. <p>Year 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students develop GCSE level skills through a range of genres and styles, building on their Key Stage 3 learning and preparing for the examined courses. They study a range of texts and develop an understanding of contextual knowledge around texts such as ‘Of Mice and Men’ and ‘Othello.’
Key Stage 4	<p>We follow the AQA GCSE syllabus for English Language and for English Literature. All students take both GCSEs, and are taught by a team of enthusiastic, specialist teachers.</p> <p>English Language</p> <p>Students engage with a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, spanning from the 19th to the 21st century. We use a thematic approach, which enables students to engage with a range of interesting topics and texts. Students are taught how to shape their writing for a range of different purposes. Specifically, they focus on developing creative writing and narrative skills, as well as writing to express a viewpoint on a different topic. Students are also awarded a qualification in oral communication.</p> <p>English Literature</p>

	<p>Students study a range of texts from differing contexts, forms and genres. These include 'Macbeth', 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' and 'An Inspector Calls'. They also study a variety of poems from across the centuries, including a number from the AQA poetry anthology.</p>
<p>Key Stage 5</p>	<p>We follow the AQA English Literature syllabus at A Level. This course encourages students to develop a passion for literature through reading widely, critically and independently. Students will become experts in literature across centuries, genre and form, and will be challenged to discuss a wide range of themes and ideas.</p> <p>This specification offers the opportunity to experience literature at its best through its clear philosophy of reading and meaning. It encourages independent reading of literary texts through a course of wide and close reading. It enables students to synthesize knowledge, understanding and skills of the course allowing them to connect and compare a wide range of whole texts and extracts.</p> <p>Course Outline:</p> <p>Paper 1: Othello - William Shakespeare Unseen Poetry The Great Gatsby Love Through The Ages Poetry Anthology</p> <p>Exam Paper 2: A Streetcar Named Desire - Tennessee Williams Unseen Prose Spies - Michael Frayn Birthday Letters - Ted Hughes</p> <p>Non-Exam Assessment (20%) One critical essay comparing a theme and a critical viewpoint between two texts.</p> <p>Goes well with: English Literature allows students to develop their skills as critical readers, as well as their empathy with both fictional and non-fictional people and events. It will therefore work well alongside any other course.</p> <p>Careers and Higher Education: An English Literature A Level can lead to degrees in: English, Journalism, Law, History, Politics, Education or Media.</p>