

**Course Tier Information (where appropriate):**

Non-tiered exams with grades 9 -1 available to all students.

**Course Assessment:**

**English Language:** 100% Exam:

- Paper 1—Explorations in creative reading and writing (25% reading; 25% writing)
- Paper 2—Writers’ viewpoints and perspectives (25% reading; 25% writing)

**English Literature:** 100% Exam:

- Paper 1—Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel (40%)
- Paper 2—Modern texts and poetry (60%)

**General Course Information:**

In Key Stage 4 English lessons, students study towards two separate GCSEs: one in English Language and one in English Literature. Across Years 10 and 11, they will read a range of texts and learn the skills required to prepare them for the four exams (two for each GCSE) they will sit in the summer of Year 11.

In Year 10, students will begin with a short unit on unseen poetry in order to establish key analytical skills and for teachers to be able to give students some early feedback on their writing. This will be followed by study of the first set of poems from the AQA Poetry Anthology – a set text which students will receive a copy of for study both at home and in class. Both unseen poetry and the taught anthology poems will eventually be examined in Paper 2 of the Literature GCSE.

By half term, students will also have begun practicing and developing the skills needed for the reading section of Paper 1 of the Language exam, where they will respond to extracts from literary fiction, again focussing on the writer’s craft. At Christmas, students will begin reading the 19th century novel, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. This is followed by the study of a second set of poems from their anthology, followed by the Shakespeare play *Macbeth*. Both *Macbeth* and *Jekyll and Hyde* are examined in Paper 1 of Literature. Again students will receive their own copy of these texts to annotate, which will become key revision material in the lead-up to exams.

In the Spring term, students will practice and develop their writing skills for Paper 1 of the Language exam where they are required to write creatively—either narrative or descriptive writing or a combination of both. Students will then be ready to take internal exams at the end of Year 10: Paper 1 of Literature and Paper 1 of Language.

During the summer term of Year 10, students will begin studying the skills for expressing a viewpoint which are assessed in the writing section of Language Paper 2. This will lead to an assessment before the summer break of their spoken language ability, for which they will receive a standalone grade on their GCSE certificate. When they return in Year 11 students will study the play *An Inspector Calls* for Paper 2 of the English Literature exam. They will then move on to the study of non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. They will explore different writers’ viewpoints and perspectives found in unseen non-fiction extracts and how to respond to them in Paper 2 of the English Language exam. They will then use what they have read as a springboard for developing their own writing for Language Paper 2 Section B, where they are expected to express views and opinions.

# COURSE OVERVIEW — ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

## YEAR 10

SEPT 2019 - JULY 2020

Topics to be studied during the first year of the course.

Autumn 1 Literature: Unseen poetry and Poetry Anthology ( <i>Lit Paper 2</i> ) Reading: Fiction ( <i>Lang Paper 1</i> )	Spring 1 Literature: Poetry Anthology ( <i>Lit Paper 2</i> )	Summer 1 Language: Creative Writing ( <i>Lang Paper 1</i> )
Autumn 2 Literature: The 19th Century Novel <i>The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> ( <i>Lit Paper 2</i> )	Spring 2 <b>Literature: Shakespeare's Macbeth</b> ( <i>Lit Paper 1</i> )	Summer 2 Revision and Year 10 exams Argument ( <i>Lang Paper 2, Spoken Language</i> )

## YEAR 11

SEPT 2020 - JUNE 2021

Topics to be studied during the second year of the course.

Autumn 1 Literature: An Inspector Calls ( <i>Lit Paper 2</i> ) Writing: Non-Fiction ( <i>Lang Paper 1</i> )	Spring 1 Literature: Poetry Anthology ( <i>Lit Paper 2</i> ) Literature: Paper 1 Revision	REVISION GCSEs begin
Autumn 2 Reading: Non-Fiction ( <i>Lang Paper 1</i> ) Year 11 Mocks—Lang Paper 1 and 2 Literature Paper 2	Spring 2 Language Paper 1 & 2 Revision Year 11 Mocks 2 —Lang Paper 1 and 2 Literature Paper 2	

### You can help your child by:

- Showing an interest in what they are doing. Asking questions about texts, lessons etc.
- Encouraging students to read as widely and frequently as possible (wider reading list available)
- Discussing both their independent reading and their set texts
- Finding out if there is anything they particularly need help with – spelling etc. (you could test them etc.)
- Ensuring that you and your child know the deadlines for homework

**Please note GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature specifications have undergone significant changes in recent years. Your child needs to use materials that refer to the 2015 onwards specifications NOT any specifications prior to this that are now out of date.**



“If you are not prepared to be wrong you will never come up with anything original” **Ken Robinson**