



KS4 Curriculum Overview

All students will take the English Language and English Literature GCSE.

For English Language we teach the English Language specification from Edexcel - <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/english-language-2015.html>

For English Literature we teach the English Literature specification from AQA - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

Year 10

During Year 10, students study selected literature texts for the English Literature course. They study the texts alongside language skills which are interweaved throughout our teaching. We have chosen to study the following texts:

Shakespeare play – Macbeth
19th century novel – A Christmas Carol
Modern prose or drama – An Inspector Calls
The poetry anthology – Power and Conflict

We study the literature texts in chronological order, normally completing a ‘cold read’ of each text first before engaging in guided in-depth study of the plots, characters, themes, contexts and ideas.

Autumn Term –

The first GCSE text we introduce students to is **Macbeth**, which is studied over the first term following a ‘cold read’. We use this text to introduce students to the level of analysis and critical essays that will be required for the rest of the course.

We also introduce students to the ‘**Power and Conflict**’ poems and study our first cluster of poems from the anthology.

Spring Term

During the second term Students study the 19th century novel – **A Christmas Carol** after completing a ‘cold read’ of the text.

Following this, students study our second cluster of poems from the ‘**Power and Conflict**’ anthology.

Summer Term

During the final term in Y10, students study our chosen modern drama text – **An Inspector Calls**.

They also study our third cluster of poems from the ‘**Power and Conflict**’ anthology, which leads into a study of unseen poetry and completing the content needed for the English Literature course.

Students are also introduced to transactional writing and complete their speaking and listening endorsement towards their **English Language** course.



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Year 11

During Year 11 students will study the GCSE English Language course alongside continuing to develop their GCSE English Literature skills.

Autumn Term

Students will cover the skills and knowledge for the GCSE English Language papers. The focus will be initially to introduce students to the format of the questions and the expected focus of responses. The study of English Literature is interwoven with a spaced practice approach.

Spring Term

Students will have covered all of the relevant GCSE content by the spring term. We then continue to develop responses to prepare students for their PPE exams in both Language and Literature. Students continue to improve and extend their content and procedural knowledge for GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Summer Term

This term is spent reflecting and developing student practice for both courses. We run walk through PPEs and ensure that students are in the best position possible prior to the final GCSE exams.