

Subject: English

Subject lead: Mr G Booth

What is provided at KS3 and/or at KS4

All students follow the National Curriculum programme of study in English in Key Stage 3. Years 7 and 8, whilst the groups remain suitable in size are taught together until Year 9. Pupils begin the GCSE AQA English Language and Literature courses at Year 9. The skills taught in the Literature strand are inter-changeable and enable students to study and understand the requirements of the Language course which runs alongside it. Not all students will undertake both examinations as the linear nature of the course make it difficult for some students to complete the Literature aspect. However all students will complete the Language element and have the opportunity to achieve a grade C pass or above. Students use Language and Literature books which show development. Pupils are provided with a wide range of opportunities to develop their Literature and Language skills including group discussion and Speaking and Listening skills at both KS3 and KS4. Speaking and Listening at Key Stage 4 is a non-examination component of the syllabus in which pupils are encouraged to develop their presentation and questioning skills. At both Key Stages pupils are given the opportunity to experience a wide range of texts including 18th, 19th and 20th Century novels, poetry, blogs, websites and Shakespeare plays.

Why do we teach this subject?

English has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils, therefore, who do not learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently are effectively disenfranchised.

What do pupils gain from it/how do they benefit?

The curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas

are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

Any statutory requirements?

English is a compulsory subject at Key Stage 3.

English is a compulsory “Core” subject at Key Stage 4.

Please see the National Curriculum for more information-

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/244215/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_English2.pdf