

KS4

Key Stage four will be run differently for year 10 and 11 students due to the changes in the national curriculum.

For current year 11 students, we offer two GCSE courses in English:

iGCSE English (First Language UK - 0522) (Cambridge)

This course includes:

- Three coursework tasks which allow learners to explore different styles and genres of writing. This includes a persuasive speech, a narrative as well as a letter responding to a particular viewpoint presented in a news article. (40%)
- One exam to test reading skills in comprehension, analysis and summary writing as well as writing skills in creating a non-fiction text based on reading in the exam. (40%)
- One speaking and listening exam where students will be asked to speak on a topic of their choice for 4 minutes and take part in a discussion about this topic for 6-7 minutes. (20%)

iGCSE English Literature (AQA)

This course includes:

- One coursework task to compare a novel to a group of poems or short stories. (40%)
- One exam where students will write essay answers about the play 'Journey's end' and unseen poetry. (60%)

For current year 10 students, we offer two GCSE courses in English which will be examined at the end of year 11. Students will gain levels 1-9 rather than A*-G.

GCSE English Language (AQA)

This course includes:

- **Paper one: Explorations in creative reading and writing.** Students will read a literary non-fiction text and respond to this using inference skills in four set questions. The final question will be an extended essay style response. In the second part of the paper, students will write either a description or narrative based on a stimulus.
- **Paper two: Writer's viewpoints and perspectives.** Students will read one non-fiction and one literary non-fiction text and be asked to respond to this in a variety of inference based questions. In the second part of the paper, students will be asked to write to present a viewpoint in a non-fiction form.
- **Non-examination assessment.** Students will be assessed for a separate certificate for spoken language. This will be examined by the Teacher. They will be expected to complete tasks to show their skills in: presenting, responding to questions and feedback as well as their use of Standard English

GCSE English Literature (Edexcel)

This course includes:

- **Paper one – Shakespeare and post-1914 literature.** Students will study Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" and Sherriff's "Journey's End". For the Shakespeare question, students will be asked to write

two essays. One will be based on a short extract from the play and the second will be to explore a character, theme or relationship. For the “Journey’s end” question, students will be given a choice of two questions on characters, themes or relationships.

- **Paper two – 19th Century Novel and poetry since 1789.** Students will study the novel “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens, a themed anthology of poetry and unseen poetry. Firstly, students will be asked to answer two essay questions on the novel. One will be based on a short extract from the play and the second will be to explore a character, theme or relationship. Secondly, students will be asked to compare two poems from the set anthology. Thirdly, students will be presented with two unseen poems and will be asked to compare the texts in an essay.

GCSE Intervention

It is vital that all learners complete coursework to their highest standard. Teaching is tailored to this outcome; but for learners who have found the skills difficult to master, they are given the opportunity to work in after school groups with staff to improve their grade with targeted skills.