

English

Examination Board: AQA

STAFF CONTACT:

Mrs H Storr

Graded: From 9 - 1

In Years 10 and 11, all students will take two GCSE courses in English Language and English Literature. Students are expected to read widely, undertake a range of written responses and to speak in a range of formal situations.

EXAMINATIONS

English Language

There are two exams for Language.

Paper 1 - Explorations in creative Reading and Writing
1 hour 45 minutes.
80 marks.
50% of the GCSE.

Paper 2 - Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.
1 hour 45 minutes.
80 marks.
50% of the GCSE.

English Literature

Paper 1 - Shakespeare and the 19th-century Novel.
1 hour 45 minutes.
40% of GCSE.

Paper 2 - Modern Texts and Poetry.
2 hours 15 minutes.
60% of the GCSE.

English Language: The study of written and spoken language.

The new specification for English Language is extremely wide-reaching and technically challenging. Student will read a range of interesting texts designed to challenge them and broaden horizons, as well as aid development in comprehension. The two exams are split into two areas of study; 20th and 21st Century texts and Writers' viewpoints and perspectives. The modules of study in Year 10 perfectly prepare students for these exams and set students up for success as they move into further study and revision in Year 11.

In addition to the reading and analysis of English Language, students will also have the opportunity to refine their writing skills. Both Language exams contain a writing section where students are expected to write imaginatively and creatively about a given subject. Consequently, there are two engaging and exciting modules on the craft of writing in Year 10 that immerse students in the joy of creative writing, and also really examine the technical accuracies within writing that students need to refine across all of their written studies.

English Literature: The study of literary texts.

Literature has also experienced a whole new makeover in English for the new GCSE specification, which means that the modules of study in Year 10 are brand new, exciting and completely designed for your success when studying literature.

The two texts we study in English literature are 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens and 'An Inspector Calls' by J B Priestley. These texts, chosen for their ease of access, potential for challenge and abundance of enjoyment, come alive in the classroom and analysis flows. Students will also have the opportunity to study a range of poetry from the Literary heritage along-side contemporary poetry. They will be exposed to a range of amazing poets such as Wilfred Owen, Ted Hughes and Carol Ann Duffy as they study a cluster entitled 'Power and Conflict'.

Happily, students at Parkwood also enjoy the most interesting, exciting and dramatic of Shakespeare's plays in key stage 4, the wonderful 'Macbeth'. This accessible and universal play is studied in terms of key scenes, enabling students to understand, enjoy and analyse this great work effectively.

