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**Curriculum Rationale**

The aim of the English curriculum is to offer a coherent curriculum that is robust and rich in reading, writing and oracy opportunities. It provides access to a stimulating and challenging variety of texts, to encourage, foster and nurture a love of reading for life. High challenge is embedded across the English curriculum through a purposely thought-provoking, exciting and wide selection of texts. Our GCSE set texts have been selected by the department to highlight the importance of a diverse English Literature curriculum. To complement this, the use of learning objectives aimed at the higher order skills enables students to achieve the deepest levels of understanding in order for students to be successful through their English learning journey.

**Exams board AQA**: At KS4, the English department follows the AQA specification for both English Language (8700) and English Literature (8702). Students are assessed on Reading, Writing and their analysis of literature.

**Key Stage 4 - Year 10:**

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|  | **Autumn Term** | **Spring Term** | **Summer Term** |
| **KS4 Year 10** | **Literature Paper 1: 19Th Century Novel: A Christmas Carol**  **Introduction to Language Paper 1 Skills : Section A- Explorations in Creative Reading** | **Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare: Macbeth**  **Language Paper 1- Section B- Explorations in Creative Writing** | **Literature Paper 2 Poetry: AQA Power & Conflict Cluster**  **Unseen Poetry**  **Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing** |
| **Assessment** | Two extract based essays using the following question format:  Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present?  (Lit AO1,2,3)  Students’ knowledge and understanding will also be assessed throughout the unit through a range of short and extended exploratory writing tasks. (Lit AO1- AO3 and Lang AO1, 2 and 4) | 2 extract based essays using the following question format:  Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents ……... (AO1,2,3,4)  Students’ knowledge and understanding will also be assessed throughout the unit through a range of short and extended exploratory writing tasks linking it to Q5 of Lang paper 1 (Lit AO1, 2, 3, 4 and Lang AO5 and AO6) | A timed assessment of:  **Section B**: A question on a named poem from the anthology which is compared to a chosen second poem. (Lit AO1, 2, 3)  **Section C**:  A question on a single unseen poem  A comparison of the methods used in the poem are now compared to the methods used in the second poem (Lit AO1, 2, 3)  Students’ knowledge and understanding will also be assessed throughout the unit through a range of short and extended exploratory writing tasks linking it to Q5 of Lang paper 1 (Lit AO1, 2, 3, 4 and Lang AO5 and AO6)  Language Paper 1 exams: 1: 45mins (Lang AO1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) |
| **Knowledge** | - Literary devices/ writers’ methods (Form/Structure/Language)  - What to include in analytical paragraphs  - Context of the novella  - Relevant information about authors  - Plot of the novella  - Understanding of the AOs of each exam paper question and the structure needed to present response and satisfy assessment requirements.  - Learning new, unfamiliar and sophisticated vocabulary | - Literary devices/ writers’ methods (Form/Structure/Language)  - What to include in analytical paragraphs  - Context of the play  - Relevant information about Shakespeare  - Plot of the play  - Understanding of the AOs of each exam paper question and the structure needed to present response  - Understanding of what max mark bracket indicates  - knowledge of devices and how to identify/use them | - Poetic devices  - What to include in analytical, evaluative, and comparative paragraphs  - Comparative connectives  - Plot of the poems in the Power and Conflict cluster  - Context of the poems in the power and conflict cluster  - Understanding of the AOs of each exam paper question and the structure needed to present response |
| **Literacy Skills** | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the novella  - Analysing the novella including the necessary strands of analysis  - Selecting/using appropriate analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately  - Writing in role and in a range of PAFs | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the text  - Inferring implicit and explicit ideas  - Analysing the text including the necessary strands of analysis  - Selecting/using appropriate and ambitious analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the poem  - analysing the poem including the necessary strands of analysis and comparison  - Selecting/using appropriate analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Using the correct homophones in sentences  - Punctuating sentences accurately  - Producing a range of non-fiction texts using relevant devices |
| **Reading Skills** | - Analyse deeper meaning/connotations of language  - Decoding unfamiliar words using their existing knowledge of root words, prefixes, and/or suffixes.  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer | - Reading uncommon words which are no longer commonly used in the English language  - Analyse deeper meaning/connotations of language  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer | - Skim and scan  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer  - Identifying unfamiliar words and investigating their meaning |

**Key Stage 4 - Year 11**

**Literature & Language**

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|  | **Autumn Term** | **Spring Term** | **Summer Term** |
| **Y11 Literature & Language** | Literature Paper 2- Modern Drama: DNA (Current Y11s)  An Inspector Calls (Next Academic Year)  English Language Paper 2- Writers’ Viewpoints and Perspectives | GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement  Poetry: AQA Power & Conflict and Unseen Poetry | English Language and Literature final revision  Students are given time in class to revisit all of the material learned through the 2-year linear course. Inspector Calls or  *DNA, A Christmas Carol* and *Macbeth* will be revised in a variety of engaging ways. Retrieval practice sessions and guidance on how to recall key plot events, themes, quotations or references; on how to select judiciously when writing essays will be offered to students. Past exams practice will be used to revise core exams skills and to practice time management skills  GCSE Exams |
| **Assessment** | A theme or character based essay question: **Lit Paper 2 Past paper- Section A only (Lit AO1, 2, 3, 4)**  Students’ knowledge and understanding will also be assessed throughout the unit through a range of short and extended exploratory writing tasks.  **Walking talking mock**  A full Lang Paper 1 and 2 past paper (AO1, 2,3,4,5,6)  **1 hour 45 minutes, each** | **Recording of Spoken Language Endorsement (AO7, 8 ,9)**  A timed assessment of:  **Section B**: A question on a named poem from the anthology which is compared to a chosen second poem.  **Section C**:  A question on a single unseen poem  A comparison of the methods used in the poem are now compared to the methods used in the second poem  (Lit AO1, 2, 3) | **Revision of all set texts of GCSE English Literature Papers 1 and 2**  Revision of GCSE English Language Papers 1 and 2.  (Walking Talking Mocks)    GCSE Exam |
| **Knowledge** | - Structural features of a play \*  - Context of the play \*  - Plot of the play \*  - Literary devices  - How to identify relevant points/information  - What to include in analytical paragraphs | - Understanding narrative, descriptive, and non-fiction text structures  - Impact of descriptive/persuasive language whilst also drawing upon individual experiences of the world around them  - knowledge of devices and how to identify and apply them  - Understanding and refining exam skill/technique | - Understanding of the AOs of each exam paper question and the structure needed to present response  - Understanding of what max mark bracket indicates |
| **Literacy Skills** | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the text  - Inferring implicit and explicit ideas  - Selecting/using appropriate and ambitious analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the play  - Analysing the play including the necessary strands of analysis  - Selecting/using appropriate analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately  -Writing in role and in a range of PAFs  - Producing a range of non-fiction texts using relevant devices | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Selecting/using appropriate analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately  - Application of all skills during the revision period. |
| **Reading Skills** | - Analyse deeper meaning/connotations of language  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer  - Decoding unfamiliar words using their existing knowledge of root words, prefixes, and/or suffixes. | - Decoding unfamiliar words using their existing knowledge of root words, prefixes, and/or suffixes.  - Analyse deeper meaning/connotations of language  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer | -Reading, marking and grading responses using mark scheme/success criteria  - Proof reading writing |

**Y12 Resits:**

**Language**

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|  | **Autumn Term** | **Spring Term** | **Summer Term** |
| **Language**  **Y12 Resit** | **English Language Paper 1- Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing**  **English Language Paper 2- Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives** | **English Language Paper 2**  **GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement** | **English Language final revision**  **GCSE Exams** |
| **Assessment** | Walking Talking Mocks- Language Paper 1 and 2 Past Exams Papers (Lang AO1, 2, 3,4, 5,6)  1:45mins each | Recording of Spoken Language Endorsement (Lang AO7, 8, 9)  Mock exams Language Paper 2 (AO1, 2, 3, 5, 6) | Language Papers 1 and 2 - Walking Talking Mocks (AO1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)  GCSE Exam |
| **Knowledge** | - Structural features of a play \*  - Context of the play \*  - Plot of the play \*  - Literary devices  - How to identify relevant points/information  - What to include in analytical paragraphs | - Understanding narrative, descriptive, and non-fiction text structures  - Impact of descriptive/persuasive language whilst also drawing upon individual experiences of the world around them  - knowledge of devices and how to identify and apply them  - Understanding and refining exam skill/technique | - Understanding of the AOs of each exam paper question and the structure needed to present response  - Understanding of what max mark bracket indicates |
| **Literacy Skills** | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the text  - Inferring implicit and explicit ideas  - Selecting/using appropriate and ambitious analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Supporting with relevant evidence from the play  - Analysing the play including the necessary strands of analysis  - Selecting/using appropriate analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately  -Writing in role and in a range of PAFs  - Producing a range of non-fiction texts using relevant devices | - Identifying points relevant to given question  - Selecting/using appropriate analytical/vocabulary essay vocabulary  - Punctuating sentences accurately  - Application of all skills during the revision period. |
| **Reading Skills** | - Analyse deeper meaning/connotations of language  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer  - Decoding unfamiliar words using their existing knowledge of root words, prefixes, and/or suffixes. | - Decoding unfamiliar words using their existing knowledge of root words, prefixes, and/or suffixes.  - Analyse deeper meaning/connotations of language  - Identifying and inferring explicit and implicit information  - Identifying and relating to the feelings and attitudes of the writer | -Reading, marking and grading responses using mark scheme/success criteria  - Proof reading writing |

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| **What parents can do to support:** | **We encourage all our parents to support our students with their reading. At home, they should read, every day, for at least 30 minutes.**  **You can also watch films on set texts together, all of which are available on YouTube, and discuss plot (key events), key ideas/themes, contexts and characters.**   * **A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZaFvTL8KJs> * **An Inspector Calls, by J. B. Priestley**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXT0FgfrQWM&t=4527s> * **Macbeth, by William Shakespeare:** * [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KQz1mqDv9I&list=PLcvEcrsF\_9zIurvVuQFZxC2\_OUIu09Un6&index=2**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KQz1mqDv9I&list=PLcvEcrsF_9zIurvVuQFZxC2_OUIu09Un6&index=2) * **Power and Conflict Poetry:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PV\_EeGJmWqA&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cAO64lBHZTFwTz2X0DD\_Cxk**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PV_EeGJmWqA&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cAO64lBHZTFwTz2X0DD_Cxk) * **DNA, by Dennis Kelly:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6u3M4-1eBU**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6u3M4-1eBU)   **A trip to the theatre to watch a production of their choice.** |

**Appendix**

Students begin their GCSE Literature course, in Y10, studying a 19th century novel. This text is challenging yet accessible, making it an excellent starting point for the students’ KS4 learning journey. Students from our feeder schools will have studied a play and/or a novel each year in KS3 and are expected to be familiar with the generic conventions of drama/ novel. **All Literature units build on students’ skills of:**

* literal and inferential comprehension
* exploring plot, events characterisation, and settings;
* distinguishing between what is explicit/implied
* explaining motivation, sequence of events
* identifying the theme and distinguishing between themes;
* supporting a point of view by referring to evidence
* recognising the possibility of and evaluating different responses
* understanding of writers’ social, historical and cultural contexts
* making an informed personal response that derives from analysis and evaluation of the text
* evaluation of a writer’s choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features: analysing and evaluating how language, structure, form and presentation contribute to quality and impact
* comparing and contrasting texts
* producing clear and coherent text: writing effectively about literature for a range of purposes such as: to describe, explain, summarise, argue, analyse and evaluate; discussing and maintaining a point of view; selecting and emphasising key points; using relevant quotation and using detailed textual references