

GCSE Level

English

GCSE English Language equips students with the skills required to read, understand and analyse a wide range of texts, as well as providing students with the opportunity to produce imaginative, creative and technically accurate pieces of writing for a variety of different purposes. An essential prerequisite to A-Levels and other Level 3 courses, the AQA GCSE English Language specification will challenge, motivate and enable students to achieve their career ambitions.

Curriculum and assessment

UNIT 1 –

Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (50%)

Section A – Reading

Students will be required to read, understand, analyse and evaluate different 19th Century literary texts.

Section B – Writing

Students will study narrative and descriptive writing.

Students will be assessed through a 1 hour 45 minute examination paper at the end of the course.

UNIT 2 –

Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%)

Section A – Reading

Students will be required to read, understand, analyse, evaluate and compare literary non-fiction texts from different centuries.

Section B – Writing

Students will study discursive writing.

Students will be assessed through a 1 hour 45 minute exam paper at the end of the course.

UNIT 3 –

Spoken Language Assessment

Students are required to complete a presentation in front of an audience. This is a compulsory element of the course, however it does not contribute to the student's final GCSE grade. Students will be awarded a separate certificate for this aspect of the course from the examination body.

Awarding Organisation: AQA

More information: Ms N Salmon

Mathematics

All students will be expected to retake GCSE Mathematics if they do not already have a Grade 4.

Curriculum and assessment

CURRICULUM

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio
- Geometry
- Statistics
- Probability

There is an increased emphasis on functional mathematics with up to 40% of each paper focusing on applying mathematics to real-life situations.

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 – non calculator
1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 2 – calculator
1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 3 – calculator
1 hour 30 minutes

All students will be put forward for the Foundation Tier examination with opportunities to re-sit in November and May/June of each year (subject to teacher judgement).

Expenses

An appropriate scientific calculator is essential. Revision materials will be available to purchase.

Awarding Organisation: AQA

More information: Mr W Dineley