

Year 7 - 11

Head of Department: Mrs G Massey

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We Value:

In English, our goal is to inspire every student to enjoy reading, writing, speaking and listening. We value students who make a consistent effort and try, even when it is tough. We aim to show everyone what an exciting curriculum we have to offer. Students who enjoy reading are also valued and our library is an exciting and stimulating place to be. Reading permeates the curriculum in all year groups and we choose challenging texts that will help our students to continue to learn and grow.

We offer these Opportunities:

For students who need a helping hand there are intervention sessions and homework clubs that happen most days after school. We run a book group for students and there is a debate club.

Theatre trips are very important to us. Last year we saw Macbeth at The Globe, An Inspector Calls and The National Theatre came in to perform Macbeth. We also took year 7 to see 'Wonder'.

We also work very closely with other departments to ensure there are cross curricular links, such as with drama, history, art and even with geography! We took Year 7s orienteering last year and then created a mini performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream in the woods!

In **Year 7** students study: narrative fiction short stories; an introduction to Shakespeare; poetry using a specially selected anthology of poems called Different Voices; A drama text Burning Everest; A short unit on how to work with nineteenth century texts and finally a unit focussed on producing a range of text types and a creative unit based around radio.

In **Year 8** students study: narrative fiction using the novella Animal Farm; Shakespeare using Romeo and Juliet; poetry using a specially selected anthology of poems called The Romantics; A short unit on how to work with nineteenth century texts; a unit focussed on producing a range of text types and a creative unit based around writing for the web.

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In **Year 9** students study: narrative fiction using the novella *Of Mice and Men*; Shakespeare using *Othello*; poetry using a specially selected anthology of poems called *Conflict*; A drama text, *An Inspector Calls*; A short unit on how to work with nineteenth century texts; a unit focussed on producing a range of text types and a creative unit based short films.

In **Year 10** students study: narrative fiction using the novella *Jekyll and Hyde*; Shakespeare using *Macbeth*; poetry using the AQA *Love and Relationships Anthology*; A drama text *An Inspector Calls* and a unit on how to read and write for exams.

In **Year 11** students review and deepen their study by re-examining *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Macbeth*; the AQA *Love and Relationships Anthology* and *An Inspector Calls* for their Literature examinations with a parallel focus on the skills required to do well in the English Language examinations. Students also develop and present a spoken language piece for their English Language GCSE.

Our Successes:

Our GCSE English results are similar to national averages despite students starting point when they come in to the school, which is excellent. Students have had their work, in the form of poetry and their stories, published in magazines and in books, which has been really exciting. Students also compete in *The Speak Out* challenge, helping them to gain confidence in public speaking.