

## **GCSE English (combined course: Years 10 and 11)**

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** AQA

### **Introduction**

The English course consists of a range of activities to include reading, writing and speaking and listening. The course helps to extend and develop students' skills and abilities in communicating clearly and imaginatively both in discussion and in written contexts. The course will also give students an opportunity to study a wide range of texts from different cultures and periods. There is also the possibility of completing separate English and English Literature GCSE qualifications.

### **Course content**

Students apply and develop skills across units including:

- Learning to read texts actively and critically
- Employing close reading skills to retrieve information
- Making inferences and commenting
- Making inferences and giving informed comments on language in use
- Producing texts that are fit for purpose and audience

### **Assessment**

There are two tiers – Higher and Foundation. The grades available in each tier are E to A\* (Higher) and G to C (Foundation).

- **Unit 1:** Written paper: Understanding and producing non-fiction texts – 40% of assessment
- **Unit 2:** Controlled Assessment: Speaking and Listening - 20% of assessment
- **Unit 3:** Controlled Assessment: Understanding and producing creative texts - 40% of assessment

### **Why study English?**

#### **Opportunities for further study and career pathways**

English is designed to develop students' knowledge and understanding of language and literature and to provide progression towards further study of English courses and the courses of related subjects. In addition, it provides a worthwhile course for students of various abilities and from diverse backgrounds in terms of general education and lifelong learning. All employers look for applicants with good knowledge and understanding of the English language and, through reading, writing and speaking and listening, this course provides a basis for that success.

**For further information contact:** Ms Matthews; Director of Learning for English