



## ENGLISH

### **Why is the study of English important?**

Because English is essentially concerned with communication, whether through written or spoken form, it is a subject fundamental to personal intellectual growth and enables us to make sense of the world around us. The ability to use spoken and written language allows us to participate effectively in society and in the workforce. English is the major language of national and international communication and therefore all students need to develop the ability and confidence to speak and write competently. From Year 7 students will be building on the skills, knowledge and understanding developed in their primary schools and in reading they will tackle a wide range of fiction and non-fiction, poems and plays that include works by 19th, 20th and 21st century writers. For example, students will read and study plays by Shakespeare, exploring themes and characters and how the issues in his plays are pertinent to modern society. There will be opportunities to explore the craft of the writer and how language is used for effect and influences the reader. Additionally, articulating a personal evaluation of a text that is supported by careful selection of evidence, and considering alternative viewpoints allows students to develop more objective insights to character and situation.

We believe that the curriculum time given to English in our school allows the development of high standards of language and literacy so that students communicate their ideas, views and emotions with increasing fluency and confidence, whether in writing or speech.

Spoken language underpins the development of students' reading and writing in the early years of secondary school and opportunities are created for discussion and debate, collaborative and individual presentations and speeches, performing play scripts and reading poetry and stories aloud. We promote reading as a way of acquiring knowledge and as a way of exploring the world in ways that develop students culturally, emotionally, socially and intellectually. In particular, we encourage the habit and enjoyment of reading, whether that be to explore situations vicariously through literature – as 6-year-old Scout in 'To Kill a Mockingbird' is told by her father, Atticus Finch: "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." – to appreciate and learn about our literary heritage or to gain information from a variety of sources.

Confidence, control and skills in writing are developed through frequent opportunities to write imaginatively and through transactional writing where purpose, audience and format are significant considerations alongside content. Across all writing activities opportunities will be created to enhance and extend students' vocabulary as well as their written accuracy and develop their ability to construct and manipulate sentences for effect. Students will be able to build on the knowledge and skills gained in Key stage 2 so that, for example, their understanding of grammar, and ability to employ subject-specific terminology confidently is further developed.

The English curriculum in our schools is rigorous, with appropriate challenge and consolidation to allow students of all abilities to flourish, whilst offering opportunities for increased breadth and depth for more-able students and support and intervention for students who are less fluent. The skills, knowledge and understanding developed through the early years in our schools provide a solid preparation for success in Key Stage 4 examination courses (Eduqas) and post-16 A-level courses.

### **What skills will the study of English teach you?**

English will develop skills in written and oral communication and will develop increasingly sophisticated skills as a reader.

- To speak confidently and accurately in a range of contexts
- To participate confidently in discussions, presentations, role-play and collaborative group work
- To develop the skills of exploratory, collaborative and tentative talk as a means of developing and shaping understanding
- To write accurately for a range of audiences and purposes – using grammar, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation accurately
- To use language as a means to persuade, clarify, explain, narrate, express emotion
- To develop the skills of planning, drafting and editing in writing
- To acquire and use confidently a wider vocabulary
- To read for enjoyment and information
- To develop cultural awareness and knowledge of literary heritage
- To develop interpretive skills and critical thinking

### **What will you know and understand from your study of English?**

- Know and experience a variety of poetry, prose and drama from the literary canon and wider sources
- Know and understand the conventions involved in reading and writing different texts
- Understand how to manipulate language for effect, for example, to persuade
- Develop an appreciation of how writers are influenced by the world that surrounds them – context

### **How does your study of English support your study in other subjects?**

English as a subject is essentially concerned with communication, whether in written or spoken form, and developing those communication skills supports all other curricular subjects. For example, the ability to participate in and lead discussions involves listening to others, considering alternative viewpoints and perspectives and using judgement to weigh up arguments. It frequently demands negotiation and team working when presenting ideas and information and the ability to articulate concisely ideas and opinions, show an understanding of texts, base conclusions on research or evidence and so on. Because speaking and listening activities in English are often built around collaborative work, having respect for others' views and contributions develops self-discipline and empathy for others. These are transferable skills that impact on all other subjects. Most subjects involve written work and because work in English is often about honing and improving the quality and accuracy of written work, the skills and knowledge about aspects of language such as spelling and grammar and technical accuracy, have a positive impact on the quality of written work in other curriculum subjects. All students study English Literature and the deep study of texts helps develop skills of analysis, perhaps of themes, language, characters, social change or historical events. At its best, Literature illuminates the human condition and offers the reader opportunities to explore and reflect on situations others have faced. In 'The Crucible' by Arthur Miller, the main character chooses to sacrifice his own life rather than betray his friends and neighbours, so in exploring this character's motivations, students have to explore questions of integrity, compassion, loyalty and responsibility. As a result, English Literature can be seen as a powerful agent for social, moral, cultural and spiritual development.

### **How can students deepen their understanding of English?**

Most would say that before you can write well, you must read a lot and so reading will underpin most written work in English. Books, and reading in general, can give students limitless 'experiences'. It is these experiences that will help our students become competent writers as we believe experience brings insight and thoughtfulness. To broaden their understanding of where they fit in the world and hone their writing skills, we will use the studied literary fiction texts, as well as non-fiction writing, such as: extracts from autobiographies or biographies, diaries, reports and articles. We will also make frequent use of multi-modal texts of various kinds from newspapers and magazines, blogs and transcripts from podcasts, as well as other new and emerging written modes from the internet.

Making full use of this immersion in experiences, much of their written work will be underpinned by this reading, so that students are exposed to a variety of fiction and non-fiction reading that provide models for the students' own writing. Students will be given lots of opportunities to write, simply because asking them to spend more time articulating their thoughts and ideas and organising them into logically sequenced 'arguments' improves their understanding of what they want to say and how to say it in increasingly effective ways. There are a wealth of activities to engage in beyond the classroom: be it book clubs, creative writing or film clubs. All of these would assist students to see how others articulate ideas in respectful, meaningful and effective ways.

As a subject, English involves a lot of writing, including extended creative responses, as well as transactional writing responses. We know that the quality and accuracy of students' writing is only developed by 'doing writing' so extended writing is planned for in the majority of lessons. We have a written accuracy campaign that sees frequent and common errors visited, revisited or ultimately addressed in every lesson and we also have editing planned for in the curriculum. This is when students are afforded the time to 'reflect and perfect' previously drafted work as we believe all good writers have an editing discipline. We also know that almost all careers ask for us to evaluate previously submitted work. In this way, we can help the students deepen their understanding of English and also be better prepared for the world of work, irrespective of career choice.

### **How are you assessed in English?**

In English, students are assessed using the following assessment objectives which form the basis of assessment at GCSE. They cover the skills assessed in Reading (AO 1-4), Writing (AO5-6) and Speaking and Listening (AO7-9). There are half termly assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars©. For younger years we base our assessment on our subject mapping of the age related expectations across the curriculum, assessing students' performance at their current stage of study against expectation. At GCSE we make informed predictions informed by our holistic assessment of their progress against the key assessment objectives and their aspirational GCSE targets. These are also the basis for any appropriate support and intervention.

#### **Key Assessment Objectives**

##### **AO1**

- Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas
- Select and synthesise evidence from different texts

##### **AO2**

- Explain, comment on analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views

##### **AO3**

- Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts

##### **AO4**

- Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references

AO5

- Communicate clearly, effectively, and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences
- Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts

AO6

- Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. (This requirement must constitute 20% of the marks for each specification as a whole.)

AO7

- Demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting

AO8

- Listen and respond appropriately to spoken language, including to questions and feedback to presentations

AO9

- Use spoken Standard English effectively in speeches and presentations.

### **How can the study of English support students beyond school?**

English provides a strong foundation for any job or profession that involves communication, writing and/or literary knowledge. These include advertising and marketing, writing and journalism, law, teaching, performing arts, government, linguistics, foreign languages, media and design. Careers in the sciences, engineering, technology and maths also need English and in fact any profession that requires analytical thinking, strong verbal and written communication, imagination or creativity can draw on the key skills acquired whilst studying English.

Careers that the study of English supports include:

- Journalism
- Teaching
- Publishing: copy editor / proof-reader
- Editorial Assistant
- Law: solicitor / barrister/ paralegal
- Librarian / Archivist
- Screenwriter
- Marketing and advertising
- Social media
- Web content manager
- Public Relations
- Human Resources
- Events management
- Research

**CURRICULUM PROGRESSION PATHWAY FOR ENGLISH AT OUTWOOD ACADEMY BRUMBY**

	YEAR 7 (each half term to include written accuracy focus)	YEAR 8 (each half term to include written accuracy focus)	YEAR 9 (each half term to include written accuracy focus)	YEAR 10 (The OGAT Teaching Plan for Language runs throughout the year)	YEAR 11 (OGAT Teaching Plan)
Autumn 1	Drama Text  How to be a Kid- Sarah McDonald-Hughes (Play)	Gracefully Grayson - Ami Polonsky	Blood Brothers- Willy Russell (Play)	Poetry post 1789  Themes of Nature and Time Passing  Shakespeare Romeo and Juliet  Narrative writing  No Nonsense Narrative Workbook  Reading AO1 and AO2	Transactional writing  Narrative Writing  Reading AO2 + AO4  Lit : An Inspector Calls
Autumn 2	A House in the Woods- Yvette Fielding	Shakespeare - Macbeth	Of Mice and Men - John Steinbeck	Post 1914-Drama  An Inspector Calls  Language  Reading AO1, AO2 and AO4 Component 1 English Language full reading paper teaching	Narrative writing  Reading AO4 + AO3  Transactional writing  Lit: Romeo and Juliet

Spring 1	The Water-babies - Charles Kingsley	When the Sky Falls- Phil Earle	My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece - Annabel Pitcher	Shakespeare Romeo and Juliet  Transactional Writing  Structure of letters, reviews, reports, articles, speeches  Reading AO3	Mock exams  Transactional writing  Narrative writing  Lit: A Christmas Carol
Spring 2	Ghost Boys - Jewell Parker Rhodes	Drama Text Wicked (The Musical/Play)	Junk- Melvin Burgess	Post-1914 Drama An Inspector Calls  Reading AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4  Component 2 English Language full paper teaching  Literature  Anthology poetry  Language  Component 1A full section  Transactional writing and preparing for the Spoken Language Assessment	Narrative Writing  Transactional writing  Comp. 1 + 2 whole papers  Lit : unseen poetry

<p>Summer 1</p>	<p>Disasters, including opportunities to read poetry, classical texts, and to practise writing transactional and creative texts</p> <p>Articles (Transactional and Craft of the Writer)</p> <p>Speeches</p> <p>Greek mythology: Pandora's Box</p> <p>Poetry: 'Out of the Blue' - Simon Armitage</p> <p>Creative Writing</p>	<p>Horror, including opportunities to read poetry, fiction, literary heritage texts, and to practise writing transactional and creative text</p> <p>History of Gothic horror</p> <p>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</p> <p>Short story: Lamb to the Slaughter- Roald Dahl</p> <p>Writing speeches</p> <p>Poetry: The Ghost</p> <p>Creative Writing</p>	<p>Dickens' Villains- Extracts from Charles Dickens</p>		<p>Revision of:</p> <p>Narrative Writing</p> <p>Transactional writing</p> <p>Comp. 1 + 2 whole papers</p> <p>Literature texts</p>
<p>Summer 2</p>	<p>An Introduction to Shakespeare:</p> <p>Focusing particularly on:</p> <p>Life and Times of Shakespeare</p> <p>Language of Shakespeare</p> <p>Translations of texts</p> <p>Much Ado about Nothing</p> <p>Merchant of Venice</p> <p>Romeo and Juliet</p> <p>Shakespeare's sonnets</p>	<p>Stone Cold- Robert Swindell</p>	<p>The Merchant of Venice- William Shakespeare</p>	<p>20th century Drama</p> <p>Text Study: An Inspector Calls</p> <p>Exploding extract questions</p> <p>End of year exams in English Language and English Literature</p>	