

Head of English – Mrs G Button

English

What will pupils gain from this subject?

As well as developing their reading, writing and oracy skills, pupils are also provided with opportunities to develop:

- Basic literacy skills
- Creativity
- Problem solving
- Critical thinking skills
- Independence
- Confidence

The Content of Key Stages

Key Stage 3

At Key Stage 3, pupils are assessed in three areas: reading, writing and oracy. Throughout Years 7-9, pupils study a variety of engaging fiction and non-fiction texts across a range of genres. Units of work are theme-based and it is through these units and rich-task setting that pupils are taught an array of invaluable skills; encouraging them to be both independent and creative in their thinking. Key Stage 3 units focus on real world topics which are relevant to daily life; such as prejudice, pay-day loans and war. At Key Stage 3, pupils also enjoy fortnightly library lessons where pupils are actively encouraged to select their own books to read independently for fun, entertainment and pleasure

Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

All Key Stage 4 classes study English Language at GCSE level. This is usually approached through focusing on highly engaging topics such as the death penalty, young offenders and crime rates and the mistreatment of orcas at SeaWorld. Rich-task setting around these evocative topics help to, not only equip pupils with the skills needed to succeed in their exams, but also in the wider world

beyond. A number of pupils also study English Literature at GCSE. This involves the study of a variety of texts, including the hugely popular 'Of Mice and Men', 'An Inspector Calls' and 'Heroes', which all feature on the exam papers. Pupils also study a Shakespeare play and a wide range of poetry in preparation for their controlled assessment

Key Stage 5 (AS/A level)

At Key Stage 5, pupils opt to study English Literature. Texts studied range from pre-19th Century prose to post-19th century drama, whilst also covering a diverse selection of compelling poetry. Although not part of the English Literature specification, there is still a purposeful focus on developing pupils' oracy skills through presentations and debate in order to prepare pupils for life after school, whether that be studying at university or progressing into full-time employment.