



January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Re: KS4 English update**

Thank you for your support in contributing to a successful autumn term. I wanted to write to inform you of the learning journey for Key Stage 4 students in English this term, so you can continue to support your child. In English, students complete two GCSEs, studying both English Language and English Literature.

#### Year 10

Year 10 students will begin the term by starting the GCSE English Language course. There is a requirement that students achieve at least a grade 4 in their English Language GCSE, otherwise they will need to continue studying this subject alongside any post-16 course. This term, students will focus on Component One, which assesses students' ability to identify, analyse and evaluate language and structure from an unseen 20<sup>th</sup> Century fiction extract. They will develop their narrative writing, which is also assessed in this unit. There will also be opportunities for speaking and listening activities, in order to develop students' communication skills, in preparation for the spoken language assessment at the end of year 10.

#### Year 11

Year 11 students will focus on revising the English Language GCSE, revising Component One in light of November mock feedback and introducing Component Two in more depth. Component Two includes two non-fiction texts and it would be useful for students to be reading the news and developing their opinions. Students will be expected to identify, analyse and compare texts, as well as writing two transactional pieces of their own. Students will also be developing their skills in order to answer the unseen poetry section of the English Literature exam.

The mock exams in March will test Component Two for the English Language GCSE and *Macbeth* and unseen poetry for GCSE English Literature. Students will receive support from their teachers on how to revise and will be provided with revision materials. Drop-in revision sessions will be available for targeted students and information will be sent out about this via email.

Students will be set regular homework which they should complete. If your child has any difficulties working independently, please don't hesitate to contact their English teacher. A homework club is available in the library, where they can access IT and additional support.

Thank you for your continued support.

C Tucker

Director of Learning for English

