



# English GCSEs

[https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature-gcse/#tab\\_overview](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature-gcse/#tab_overview)

[https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-language-gcse/#tab\\_overview](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-language-gcse/#tab_overview)

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Head of Department
GCSE English Literature	Eduqas	601/5246/1	Miss A Martin
GCSE English Language	Eduqas	601/4505/5	Miss A Martin

**Course Information** In the English Department, we have a saying that is, 'English is information – obtaining it and bequeathing it' and that 'English is communication'. We communicate all the time, to so many people through so many different mediums: for that very reason, everything we do in English must be vital for life!

**Skills/Aptitude Required** The skills you have already gained in reading for meaning; explaining meaning; analysing and evaluating texts plus the ability to produce texts for different audiences, purposes and genres.  
**Plus**  
An open mind; a willingness to give everything a go; the ability to take on constructive advice and criticism to become ever better readers and writers.

**Next Steps** The chance to read a wide variety of texts for meaning; explore the world from past to present and to use language to express one's own opinion and ideas is invaluable to both the A-Levels we offer in English at The Howard School – 1. A-Level Language and 2. A-Level Literature & Language.

The skills of communication, analysis and evaluation at GCSE will aid all subjects at A-Level.

**Future Careers** As English is communication, the subject will aid any future career where you will be communicating with people through speech or through writing.

More specifically, English can lead to careers in advertising, media, retail and marketing, proof-reading & editing, policing and law, education, social care, web content, research and interpreting - to name just a few...

## The Courses in Depth

**Year 9 Topics Covered**

- Poems from our 'Poetry Anthology'
- 'Lord of the Flies'
- A 19th Century text – 'A Christmas Carol' or 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde'
- A range of unseen poems

**Year 10 Topics Covered**

- Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'
- Poems from our 'Poetry Anthology'
- Revision of all the texts studied

**Year 11 Topics Covered** This 1 year course focuses on the core skills of reading and writing. We will study a range of short stories and learn how to effectively explain, analyse and evaluate meaning within them and we will do the same with a range of non-fiction texts.

We will also further develop our skills in writing – focusing on producing our own engaging fictional anecdotes and composing a range of biased, often persuasive non-fiction texts.

**Internal Assessment** GCSE English Language is 100% exam PLUS there is a separate component (Spoken Language) which is internally examined and receives its own certificate.

**External Assessment** **GCSE English Literature (taken at the end of Year 10)** GCSE English Literature is 100% exam  
Component 1: Shakespeare and Poetry Anthology – 40% (2 hours)

Component 2: Post-1914 Prose/Drama, 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry – 60% (2 hours 30 minutes)

**GCSE English Language (taken at the end of Year 11)**

Component 1: 20th Century Fiction Reading and Creative Prose - 40% (1 hour 45 minutes)

Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-fiction Reading and Transactional/Persuasive Writing – 60% (2 hours)

Component 3: Spoken Language

*"English is Communication and we communicate all the time."*