

**Subject:** ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

**Examination Board:** AQA

**Syllabus:** English Language – 8700 and English Literature – 8702

**Topics covered and skills developed:**

This integrated course aims to develop the skills of speaking and listening, reading and writing to foster an interest in spoken and written language and to encourage a love of literature.

The English Language GCSE encourages students to read a greater range of high quality, challenging literature and non-fiction texts from a range of genres and types (from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries). There is a focus on making sure that students are able to write clearly and accurately, in good Standard English, as well as placing emphasis on spelling, punctuation, grammar and vocabulary.

The English Literature GCSE encourages students to read a wide range of classic literature sensitively with the following covered: a 19th century novel; a Shakespeare play; a selection of poetry since 1789, including representative Romantic poems; and British fiction or drama from 1914 onwards.

**Support Material**

Material will be made available to students on the Curriculum Shared Area. The AQA website contains further assessment material and guidance: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

**What you could do to support your daughter:**

We would like you to encourage your daughter to read as widely as possible in order to develop the skills needed for English Language Paper One (*Explorations in creative reading and writing*). In order to assist with wider reading choices, the English Department has set the *16 x 16* challenge to read sixteen classic texts by the age of sixteen. Details are outlined in the GCSE handbook and offer inspiration to read outside of the curriculum. Reading newspaper articles, websites, editorials and a range of other non-fiction texts will help to prepare for English Language Paper Two (*Writers' viewpoints and perspectives*).