



Faculty of English Film and Media

The Team

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Subject Leader for A Level Literature

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Creative Writing Club

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English Teacher

Mrs Collette Harding
Learning Support Assistant

Mrs Louisa Howard
Faculty Clerical Assistant

How the English GCSEs breakdown...

Year 10 (Internal CA)

U1 Lang: English Today 20%
U3 Lang: Spoken Word 20%
U3 Lit: Drama 25%

Year 11 (External exam)

U1 Lit: Prose 50%
U2 Lit: Poetry 25%
U2 Lang: Writer's Voice 40%

Ongoing over 2 years

U3 Lang: Speaking and Listening 20%



March 2013

English Spring Bulletin

Keeping year 10 parents and carers up to date with their children's studies

Year 10 students have already completed 2 out of the required 3 elements towards their English Language GCSE and have 40% of this qualification behind them. The final element, the externally set exam, will be sat in Summer 2014. Students are currently studying Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' and will sit this Literature controlled assessment (CA) shortly after the Easter break. Our final assessment of this academic year will be around the mid term break in May/June where students will write about the contemporary drama text 'Almost Famous'



"the moonman has gone under the sea
the singer has gone under the shade."

which won an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay in 2000. We are introducing an exciting new unit to end the year, 'Cultural Studies in Literature' where students will explore an area of literature they will not have come across before.

Choices include the Harlem Renaissance, poetry of the African tribes, Spanish drama or French novels, amongst other options. These are self contained courses written by our own team to expose students to different traditions of literature—rich and rewarding journeys designed to spark their imaginations and encourage an interest in non-British literary output. This allows teachers to introduce students to their own areas of interest and expertise—but there will also be the opportunity for students to suggest their own focus for study.

What else does the Faculty offer?

We have various lunchtime clubs and activities where students can develop their interests in creative writing, poetry, film, and magazine production. Catch ups at lunchtime and after school are available every week for students who have fallen behind due to absence, or for students who want extra revision or chances to improve their rate of progress.

We have an open door policy in the department where students can talk to their teachers out of class and arrange for additional support. *In return we expect students to attend all of their lessons punctually with the correct equipment—including a graffiti-free ring-binder. Replacement folders are available at a cost of 50p. Homework should also be completed and handed in on time to avoid college sanctions.*

What happens after students sit their controlled assessments?

Recent reforms to the GCSE mean that we submit all of the students' CA unit marks at the end of the course in Summer 2014. Prior to that the class teacher marks the work which then undergoes a strict moderation process which involves all 12 year 10 classes. This ensures that all teachers' marking is consistent and adheres to the exam board

criteria. Giving students feedback on how they have performed is important for their confidence and also helps to motivate them for the next unit—as well as satisfying their curiosity. However, we can only ever give a guide as the exam boards do not set grade boundaries until all of the results from across the UK have been submitted in the Summer.

In these circumstances both teachers and students have to be patient!

Year 11

All of the externally set exams are sat in year 11. This gives students time to develop their craft as writers and mature into thoughtful and creative young adults who are able to cope with the many demands of writing under strict exam conditions.