



English Language

Name of Course	GCSE English Language (8700)
Exam Board	AQA
Curriculum Outline	<p>Pupils will undertake two units, each with two sections.</p> <p><u>Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing</u></p> <p>Section A – Pupils will read extracts from an extensive range of 20th 21st Century fiction, gaining a deep understanding of how writers craft their work to be entertaining and engaging reads. Pupils learn to read for meaning, interpreting both the explicit and implicit information in texts as well as analysing writers' linguistic and structural choices and evaluating how well their work has achieved its goals.</p> <p>Section B – Pupils study creative writing, learning to write descriptively and imaginatively. In addition to promoting an extensive vocabulary, this section also teaches pupils to craft their own narratives, bringing their stories to life with engaging characterisation and dialogue.</p> <p><u>Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives</u></p> <p>Section A – Pupils will read 19th 20th and 21st Century non-fiction from an extensive range of genres, forms and media, gaining an appreciation of how a writer's purpose influences their stylistic choices and structural discourse in non-fiction texts as well as how these are tailored to their meet the needs of their intended audience. Pupils analyse and evaluate these extracts as individual pieces of work but also compare the varying opinions and perspectives unique to the different eras of non-fiction writing.</p> <p>Section B – Pupils study the writing of non-fiction, learning to write persuasively and informatively in an engaging way. Pupils focus on producing a range of different forms of non-fiction with accuracy, clarity in a way which is appropriate for their purpose. In short, pupils become excellent and effective communicators.</p>



Learning & Assessment Method	<p>8700/1 - Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing – 50% of the GCSE. The unit is assessed through a 1 Hour and 45 minute examination, set and marked by AQA.</p> <p>8700/2 – 50% of the GCSE. The unit is assessed through a 1 Hour and 45 minute examination, set and marked by AQA.</p>
Curriculum Intent	<p>This course explores the art and craft of written creativity and the skill of presenting information about the world in an engaging way. Through reading in this way, pupils will be better prepared to navigate the modern world of written media that bombards us in our daily lives. The ability to interpret, analyse and evaluate non-fiction with a critical eye is crucial to pupils forming their own opinions about the world around them. Understanding the craft of persuasive non-fiction enables pupils to be successful and influential in their own academic study or future workplaces while also ensuring they can stay true to their own values, discerning carefully between reliable information and unreliable rhetoric that permeates modern media. The ability to read and write non-fiction is a crucial skill in academic study at both further and higher education, promoting independent study skills and academic self-expression. Encouraging a wide and selective vocabulary encourages pupils to be aware of the finer nuances of language, enabling pupils to express themselves in many different ways, a vital skill whether they choose an academic or a professional path to follow. Writing creatively and imaginatively also promotes personal and mental wellbeing while the wide range of fiction encountered on this course deals with a wide range of historical and cultural issues, increasing the cultural capital of our pupils.</p>



St Aidan's Catholic Academy

'We believe that God has created each person to celebrate *life to the full*'



<p>Career and Learning Progression</p>	<p>English Language combines many of the attributes looked for in further and higher education such as: extended writing skills; reading non-fiction with purpose; and expressing a point of view persuasively, objectively and with clarity. Skills of analysis, evaluation and comparison are transferrable into many areas of academic and professional life.</p> <p>While a satisfactory grade in English Language is considered essential in many areas post GCSE, from occupational qualifications such as apprenticeships to further academic study at A-Level, it also creates transferrable skills which could lead pupils to:</p> <table data-bbox="632 775 1054 943"><tr><td>Law</td><td>The arts</td></tr><tr><td>Politics</td><td>Teaching</td></tr><tr><td>Marketing</td><td>Academia</td></tr><tr><td>Journalism</td><td>History</td></tr><tr><td>Social Sciences</td><td>Psychology</td></tr></table>	Law	The arts	Politics	Teaching	Marketing	Academia	Journalism	History	Social Sciences	Psychology
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<p>Useful Links</p>	<p>https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8700/specification/specification-at-a-glance</p>										