



English Language

Name of Course	AQA GCSE English Language (1EN0)
Exam Board	AQA
Curriculum Outline	<p>Pupils will undertake three units, two written exams, each with two sections. The third is a speaking and listening endorsement assessed with a distinct grade.</p> <p>Unit 1 – Explorations in Creative Writing Section A: Pupils read a range of fiction, learning to interpret meaning and analyse how writers use language and structure to engage readers. Section B: Pupils develop descriptive and imaginative writing skills, crafting narratives with effective vocabulary, characterisation, and dialogue.</p> <p>Unit 2 – Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives Section A: Pupils study non-fiction from different eras, exploring how purpose shapes style. They analyse and compare viewpoints across time. Section B: Pupils learn transactional writing, producing clear, accurate, and persuasive non-fiction for different audiences and purposes.</p> <p>Unit 3 – Spoken Language Pupils apply the skills from Unit 2 to plan, write, and deliver a presentation on a teacher-approved topic of their choice. This promotes independence and allows them to discuss issues that matter to them. They also answer audience questions to demonstrate their presentation and speaking skills.</p>
Learning & Assessment Method	<p>Unit 1 – 50% of the GCSE. The unit is assessed through a 1 Hour and 45 minute examination, set and marked by AQA.</p> <p>Unit 2 – 50% of the GCSE. The unit is assessed through a 1 hour and 45 minute examination, set and marked by AQA.</p> <p>Unit 3 – 0% of the GCSE, awarded a separate 'Pass/Merit/Distinction' grade by their subject teacher and approved by AQA moderation.</p>
Curriculum Intent	This course develops pupils' creative and non-fiction writing skills, helping them understand how language shapes meaning in the modern media landscape. By learning to interpret and evaluate texts critically, pupils become more informed, independent thinkers. Strong persuasive writing skills support future academic and workplace success, while a broad vocabulary enables precise and confident self-expression. Creative writing also supports wellbeing, and the diverse fiction studied enriches pupils' cultural awareness.
Career and Learning Progression	English Language develops key skills valued in further and higher education, including extended writing, purposeful non-fiction reading, and clear, persuasive expression. The abilities to analyse, evaluate, and compare texts transfer easily to many academic and professional fields. While a strong English Language grade is essential for most post-GCSE pathways—from apprenticeships to A-Levels—it also equips pupils with versatile skills that prepare them for a wide range of future opportunities.
Useful Links	<p>https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8700/specification</p> <p>https://www.staidanscatholicacademy.co.uk/curriculum/english/</p>