

WEST DERBY SCHOOL

KS4 Course Description

<b>Subject</b>	<b>English Language and Literature</b>
<b>Specification</b>	<b>WJEC Joint Language and Literature</b>
<b>Course Outline</b>	<p><b>As a core subject, English is taught to everybody. We aim to prepare you for success in examinations as well as for future employment.</b></p> <p><b>The wide reading of plays, poems and novels is encouraged because we believe that a full appreciation of Literature forms a most valuable part of education for future life. Many of the texts you will study link to other Key areas of the curriculum such as Citizenship for example.</b></p> <p><b>We also place a lot of emphasis on the basic skills of spelling, punctuation and good presentation. English Language skills can certainly be improved with effort and can lead to the achievement of better G.C.S.E grades.</b></p> <p><b>The Department currently follows the WJEC syllabus for joint entry in both English Language and Literature. All pupils following Pathway One study Language and Literature. Pupils in higher sets are entered for English Language at the end of Year 10 in order to gain at least a C grade.</b></p> <p><b>This early entry allows the opportunity to either re-sit Language in Year 11 to gain a higher grade, or to concentrate more fully on English Literature in Year 11. Those who opt for Pathway Two have the option of also studying English Literature in Year 11 if they have completed all their English Language coursework to a satisfactory level.</b></p>

WEST DERBY SCHOOL

<b>Typical Activities</b>	<p>The reading of examination texts such as ‘Of Mice and Men’, ‘Blood Brothers’. The study of ‘Romeo and Juliet’ for coursework including watching the 1998 Baz Luhrmann film to compare it with the original film.</p> <p>The study and discussion of non – fiction persuasive materials and documentaries such as ‘Ross Kemp’, ‘Dragons’ Den’ and various product advertisements.</p> <p>Spoken English activities in groups, pairs, role play and individual presentations to the class using Powerpoint and prepared posters or ‘products’.</p>
<b>Assessment Details</b>	<p>Both Language and Literature courses are assessed on a mixture of coursework and final written examinations. Most of the work will be done in school but a significant amount needs to be done at home.</p> <p>For <u>English Language</u> you will need to complete <u>four</u> pieces of written coursework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Creative Writing</li><li>❖ Persuasive Writing</li><li>❖ Shakespeare</li><li>❖ Other Cultures (Poetry)</li></ul> <p>These pieces make up 40% of your overall mark for Language, with two examination papers making up the remaining 60%.</p> <p>For <u>English literature</u> you will need to complete a further <u>two</u> pieces of coursework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Pre 1914 Poetry</li><li>❖ Pre 1914 Prose</li></ul> <p>These pieces make up 30% of your overall mark for Literature, with one examination paper making up the remaining 70%.</p> <p>There is also a Spoken English element</p>

WEST DERBY SCHOOL

	<p>making up a further 20% of your English Language mark.</p>
<b>Homework</b>	<p>Pupils will have to complete an extended piece of coursework roughly every two weeks in any given half term. This will be in the form of a rough draft (usually in their books) and a final draft (usually on the PC). In between these formal assignments pupils will be commonly set a number of preparatory tasks such as grammar exercises, key spellings, research activities and Spoken English preparation.</p>
<b>How parents can help</b>	<p>Both Language and Literature courses are assessed on a mixture of coursework and final written examinations. As such parents can expect to see their child completing a rough copy and a final copy of an extended coursework piece per half term, together with a number of preparatory activities. Proof reading of such work by another adult is extremely useful.</p> <p>In addition there are a number of textbooks and revision guides available for the WJEC course.</p> <p>The G.C.S.E English Bite size website is also useful for such skills as persuasive writing and basic English skills.</p> <p>Please encourage your child to read as much as possible outside school, covering a varied diet of both fiction and non-fiction.</p>
<b>Reasons for choosing this subject</b>	<p>The GCSE course also aims to provide you with the skills required for further study at AS or other levels. It emphasises the need for both good written and spoken communication skills to ensure that pupils have a good functional skills for the world of employment.</p>