English Department

School Curriculum Vision and Aims
All of our students, regardless of ability or background, will experience an inclusive, diverse, and knowledge-rich curriculum which explores the past, the present and paves the way for the future of the English disciplines.Together, we will endeavour to enhance the cultural capital of our students and equip them with the knowledge and skills required to communicate confidently and become global citizens. 1. Critical Thinking: Students develop the ability to be able to examine the explicit and implicit meaning of language and how meaning is shaped in both written and spoken English. 2. Active Learning: Students take responsibility for managing their learning by undertaking independent practice in all lessons including the completion of knowledge recall and self-quizzing activities to identify and close gaps in their own knowledge, and reflection activities to continually improve their work. 3. Meaningful Content: Students are exposed to the core elements of the Language and Literature disciplines through studying a range of fiction and non-fiction texts with different audiences, forms and purposes from different cultures over time, creating a spiralised curriculum that encourages core knowledge to be embedded to long term memory. 4. Appropriate Challenge: All students are challenged through a core curriculum which explores a range of rigorous texts. Adaptations are made to support and stretch those at earlier and later stages of development. 5. Healthy Struggle: Students are encouraged to think hard, accept difficulties, and challenge themselves through independent learning. This is modelled and scaffolded through department wide I Do, We Do, You Do methods to support the development of metacognitive skills which can be applied in a range of new contexts. 6. Think Harder: Students are challenged to learn and reason further by applying learning to new literary texts, new written and spoken forms and within independent home learning. 7. Achieve More Independently: Students demonstrate their learning through independently completing wider reading (especially through Sparx Reader), extended writing, and spoken presentations which allow teachers to identify and address misconceptions.

Subject Intent		
Key Stage 3 In line with the National Curriculum, Key Stage 3 English aims to promote high standards of language and literacy through explorations of a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts, including three Shakespearean plays, four novels, a range of poetry, and a variety of non-fiction texts. By the end of Key Stage 3, students should have a solid foundation of core knowledge to build upon in their Key Stage 4 English studies.	**Key Stage 4** The aim of Key Stage 4 English is to ensure that all students leave with proficient skills in reading, writing, and speaking and listening, so that they can communicate in a variety of forms, for varied purposes, and in a range of situations. In line with National Curriculum expectations and AQA's specification, students study a Shakespeare play,19th Century novel,	**Key Stage 5** **English Literature (course no longer offered after 2025)** The aim of Key Stage 5 English Literature is to encourage students to further develop their interest and enjoyment of literature and literary studies so that they can engage critically and creatively with a range of texts. In line with the National Curriculum and AQA's specification, students explore how meanings are shaped in a range of texts

	and a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry from the 18th to 21st centuries.	from the 19th to 21st centuries, and develop spoken and written communication skills so that they can effectively communicate their knowledge in readiness for future studies or the world of work. **English Language and Literature from 2025 onwards** The aim of Key Stage 5 English Language and Literature is to encourage students to develop a stylistic approach to the study of English in which they combine the skills of linguistic analysis with literary analysis so that they can engage critically and creatively with a range of texts. In line with the National Curriculum and AQA's specification, students broach all topics using an integrated model of language and literature study to explore how meanings are shaped in a range of both literary and non-literary texts from different modes (spoken, written and blended), and develop spoken and written communication skills so that they can effectively communicate their knowledge in readiness for future studies or the world of work.
Curriculum Specification		
Key Stage 3 National Curriculum	Key Stage 4 National Curriculum **Academic GSCE:** AQA English Language AQA English Literature	Key Stage 5 National Curriculum English Literature GCE AS and A level English language and literature - GOV.UK **Academic A Levels:** A-level English 7712 | Specification | AQA (Literature) A-level English 7707 | Specification | AQA (Language and Literature)