

English

The ethos of the English Department is to value each pupil as an individual. We endeavour to challenge, guide and support pupils to enable everyone to reach their full potential. We provide a structured and caring environment in which pupils learn to communicate effectively and successfully through the components of Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening. Pupils are encouraged to think independently and to develop their own personality by gaining confidence and exploring their creativity. We provide pupils with many opportunities to work with others, whether it's a group project, class discussion or drama performance.



Key Stage 3

In Years' 8, 9 and 10 all pupils are allocated at least six periods of English per week. Pupils have the opportunity to explore a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts that are relevant to their interests and life experiences. Pupils, through our varied schemes of work, are encouraged to develop creative, imaginative and critical thinking skills. Pupils will encounter a selection of popular literature texts in the form of novels, plays and poetry. The structure of lessons enables pupils to engage in a range of activities to enhance all aspects of communication, namely;

- Reading
- Writing
- Talking and Listening



There are multiple opportunities to work independently and with others in an interactive and fun learning environment, where discussion, debate and drama are common place.

Literacy Support

The English Department also works closely in conjunction with Learning Support to address individual pupil literacy needs. Various strategies are in place to raise pupil confidence and attainment, including a Reading Partnership Programme which offers some pupils a weekly session of one-to-one reading support. This develops their confidence and enhances their basic reading skills, which benefits their studies across all strands of the curriculum. The use of ICT, to enhance literacy skills, encourages and benefits all students and the use of specifically chosen literacy games is also effective, as it provides pupils with the opportunity to work with others and to learn from their peers in a fun and interactive environment.



Key Stage 4

As we are all aware developing essential skills in English Language at G.C.S.E level is extremely important, as it enables young people to access a variety of educational and career pathways. At Key Stage 4 all pupils follow the G.C.S.E course offered by CCEA for English Language whilst some pupils also study CCEA's English Literature course.

Study for English Language

CONTENT	CONTENT SUMMARY	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
UNIT 1	Writing for Purpose and Audience Reading to access Non-fiction and Media Texts	External Examination (1 hr 45 mins)	30%
UNIT 2	Speaking and Listening	Controlled Assessment	20%
UNIT 3	Studying Spoken and Written Language	Controlled Assessment	20%
UNIT 4	Personal/Creative Writing Reading Literary and Non-fiction texts	External Examination (1 hr 45 mins)	30%



Study for English Literature

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
UNIT 1	Study of Prose: External Examination (1 hr 45 mins)	30%
UNIT 2	The Study of Drama and Poetry: External Examination (2 hrs)	50%
UNIT 3	The Study of Shakespeare: Controlled Assessment	20%



Key Stage 5

AS and A2 Level

At Key Stage 5 pupils have the opportunity to study CCEA's course for English Literature, which naturally builds upon the skills and knowledge acquired at G.C.S.E level.

Pupils are encouraged to:

- explore their love of English Literature
- engage critically and creatively with a range of texts;
- develop and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation;
- explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretations of them;
- carry out independent research and present personal responses in an appropriate form;
- develop advanced study skills to prepare them for third level education





Structure of English Literature Course

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTINGS
<u>AS 1:</u> The Study of Poetry & Drama (1900-Present)	External Examination (2 hours)	60% AS 24% A2
<u>AS 2:</u> The Study of Prose (Pre 1900)	External Examination (1 hour)	40% AS 16% A2
<u>A2 1:</u> Shakespearean Genres	External Examination (1 hour 30 minutes)	20% A2
<u>A2 2:</u> The Study of Poetry (Pre 1900) and Unseen Poetry	External Examination (2 hours)	20% A2
<u>A2 3:</u> Internal Assessment	2,500 word essay	20% A2



Castleberg High School