

## GCSE English

Students following this course are those in English sets 3, C, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

The exam board the students are following is the WJEC board: [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk). There is a parent and student page on the website. Please note that any exams papers from 2011 or earlier follow an old specification and WILL NOT be the same as the exams students will be completing from 2012 onwards, but, they will develop students' English skills if you wish to use them as general English practice.

Other resources can be found at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/>

The course is comprised from 60% controlled assessment and 40% exam.

### Controlled Assessments:

Controlled Assessments are prepared for and carried out during English lesson time, in exam conditions. They are an important aspect of the course and it is **imperative** that every assessment meets the students' target grade otherwise they will be asked to complete another one until the target grade is met.

Literary texts	a response to a novel	10%
Shakespeare and poetry	a linked piece exploring a theme between Shakespeare and poetry	10%
Writing (1)	writing in 1 <sup>st</sup> person narrative	10%
Writing (2)	writing in 3 <sup>rd</sup> person narrative	10%
Speaking and listening	adapting and communicating language - presentation	} total of 20%
Speaking and listening	interacting and responding - group/paired activity	
Speaking and listening	creating and sustaining roles - drama focused activity	

Students behind on their controlled assessments, or needing to improve current controlled assessments, will be **expected** to attend English sessions after school on Thursdays.

### Exams:

Exams will be sat in January with re-sit opportunities in May.

Unit 1	responding to non-fiction texts	1 hour	20%
Unit 2	writing for non-fiction purposes	1 hour	20%

### Year 10

Students will spend Year 10 working on and completing their controlled assessments.

### Year 11

In Year 11, students will have time to improve controlled assessments, if required. They will also prepare for an English GCSE mock exam in October. At this point classes will be re-structured according to exam performance. Students will then spend lessons preparing for their GCSE exams in January.

Once results are published in March, students may need further exam preparation for exams in May when they will have their final opportunity to achieve their target grade.

**Key dates:**

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	Unit 1 and Unit 2	GCSE English exams	(Y11 only)
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	Unit 1 and Unit 2	GCSE English exam	(re-sit opportunity Y11)

Year 10 exams will be in the January and May of 2013.