



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

What will you study during the course?

The GCSE English Language course is exciting and varied, allowing us to incorporate a wider variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. The new course is designed to be accessible and engaging for all students. The course will equip you with all the skills you need to progress to sixth form, university and the world of work. While nurturing a love of creativity and literature, the course will also develop your critical thinking and analytical skills.

How will the course be taught?

You will be placed in bands at the end of Year 9 based on your prior attainment and teachers' professional recommendations. All students will have the opportunity to change set during their GCSE course depending on their level of progress during Year 10 and 11.

You will have seven lessons a fortnight on your timetable allocated to English Language and English Literature combined. Some students are allocated one extra English lesson a fortnight in small groups to support their studies.

How will your work be assessed?

The examination board is AQA. You will sit two papers at the end of Year 11, each 1 hour 45 minutes long. Each paper consists of a reading and a writing section. The reading sections are based on real texts by authors from the 19th-21st centuries. The writing sections focus on your ability to write in different forms and for different audiences. Both papers are equally weighted and count for 50% of your GCSE.

The table below outlines the exam structure for the course:

	Section A: Reading	Section B: Writing
Paper 1	Literary fiction	Descriptive or narrative writing
Paper 2	Non-fiction and literary non-fiction	Writing to present a viewpoint

There is also a spoken language qualification which requires you to complete a presentation to your class and answer questions.

Where can it lead?

In English you will learn to read, think and write critically and creatively in a range of forms and for different purposes and audiences. As a result, you will develop transferable skills which can lead to a wide range of careers in various sectors and industries.

In order to continue on to A-Level at Charters, you will need to achieve a grade 7 if you wish to study the English Literature course, or a grade 6 to study the Language and Literature A-Level.

If you do not achieve a minimum of a grade 4, you will have to re-sit your English GCSE as you continue with your further education.