

# GCSE English

## **Board and Syllabus:**

Currently the Department enters all students for OCR at Higher Tier.

## **GCSE English**

This is examined as follows:

1. Exam: non-fiction and media 1 hour 45 minutes. Weighting 30%.
2. Exam: different cultures, analysis and argument 1 hour 45 minutes. Weighting 30%.
3. Written coursework: reading and writing assessed. Weighting 20%.
4. Speaking and listening as coursework. Weighting 20%.

## **Examinations**

The first paper tests the candidates' language skills in reading and writing. They have to read the non-literary material on the paper and then evaluate, analyse and comment on the way information is presented. Candidates are also required to produce a piece of continuous writing to inform, explain and describe based on the reading material provided.

We practise the skills for this paper from the beginning of the course and in 4<sup>th</sup> form exams and the 5<sup>th</sup> form mock.

The second paper requires candidates to respond to distinctive aspects of texts from different cultures. In response to material from different cultural traditions, candidates will be expected to produce responses which analyse, review and comment and also argue, persuade and advise.

## **Coursework**

Speaking and listening are assessed by the teacher throughout the course. Internally we are moderated by Mr Declan Rogers. Candidates have to demonstrate the following skills:

1. Drama focussed activity
2. Group activity
3. Individual extended contribution

They have to work individually, in pairs and in groups. Eventually three activities which cover the requirements are counted towards their final mark. This component is for English GCSE only.

The written folder for English has a minimum of four pieces, but since we study Literature as well, our folder is combined with Literature, and some pieces count for both.