



THE WESTLEIGH SCHOOL
Aspiring & Achieving Together

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to welcome students into Year 11 and look forward to supporting them through this important year of their English GCSE studies. Together, we can build the confidence and stamina necessary for the demands of the English GCSEs, secure strong progress and help every student achieve their best possible grades in both AQA English Literature and Pearson Edexcel 2.0 English Language.

GCSE Examination Arrangements

Students will be entered for:

AQA English Literature:

- Paper 1: Shakespeare 'Macbeth' and the 19th-century novel 'A Christmas Carol'
- Paper 2: Modern texts 'An Inspector Calls', Poetry 'Power and Conflict' and Unseen Poetry

Pearson Edexcel 2.0 English Language

- Paper 1: Non-fiction texts and transactional writing
- Paper 2: Contemporary texts and imaginative writing

Teachers will monitor progress and provide targeted support to ensure every student is fully prepared for both specifications. Assessment evidence will be used to identify areas for improvement and to guide form time intervention, after school intervention and revision.

Year 11 assessments:

Half term 1	Half term 2	Half term 3	Half term 4
In class, Macbeth assessment.	Assessment week: Full Literature Paper 1 and full Language Paper 1.	In class, Power and Conflict Poetry and Unseen assessment.	Assessment week: Full Literature Paper 2 and full Language Paper 2.

In the first term, students will complete their GCSE course studying Macbeth alongside Language Paper 1. Students will begin regular practice with GCSE-style questions in both Literature and Language. These will include timed extracts, essay responses, and language analysis tasks. Teachers will use recall, scaffolding and modelling, live marking and feedback to encourage progress. Students should be resilient and review their work, complete corrections and act on feedback.

In the Summer term, teachers will follow an interleaved plan whereby all classes recap and revise all of their course to prepare them for their GCSEs.

After-School Intervention

Year 11 English intervention will take place every Thursday from 3.00–3.45 pm. Intervention will be targeted at a small group of students for a number of weeks then will rotate. Sessions will include:

- Targeted support for structuring writing
- Guided practice with past papers
- Activities to strengthen knowledge and improve exam technique

Selected students may also be invited to intervention groups during form time. We ask families to encourage regular attendance and purposeful participation in every opportunity offered.

EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER: MR CARLTON BRAMWELL

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Weekly Homework

Students have been set their Literature texts on Sparx reader and should be reading regularly throughout the week to complete this.

Students have been set the Pearson 2.0 Language revision booklet to work through a specific number of activities every fortnight. Every other week, the students will be asked to create a Literature revision resource on a topic outlined by their teacher.

Recognising Commitment

At the end of each half term, there will be a raffle prize draw where our top positive point scorers will be entered. We also invite our top ATL students to film night as a reward for their hard work and effort throughout Year 11.

Further Revision Support

Alongside weekly homework and in-class practice, these free websites offer explanations and additional exam practice:

- **BBC Bitesize English** – Revision guides, examples and practice activities
- **Seneca Learning** – Interactive revision for both Literature and Language
- **Mr Bruff (YouTube)** – Video tutorials for AQA Literature and Edexcel Language
- **SparkNotes** – Summaries and analysis for set texts

How Families Can Help

- Support your child in completing weekly reading and homework independently, carefully and on time
- Encourage attendance and active participation at Thursday intervention when your child has been invited and for form time intervention also
- Provide a quiet revision routine and ask your child to show you the work they have completed, corrected and reviewed
- Encourage your child to use the available videos and resources to catch up promptly following any absence

We look forward to supporting Year 11 and celebrating their progress. Thank you for encouraging your child. With regular practice, a positive response to feedback and a willingness to ask for help, every student can make meaningful progress.

Please contact your child's English teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Molineux