



Sir Frederic Osborn School

Achieving Success Together

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Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to introduce myself as Assistant Subject Leader for English with responsibility for KS3. From September 2017 the English Department will run a two year KS3 curriculum which closely reflects the KS4 requirements and builds on the enhanced curriculum at KS2. As such, students will study Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry and Shakespeare in addition to creative writing.

As per the whole school assessment system, students in English are tracked through their Learning Journey and assessed against specific criteria without the use of National Curriculum levels. Students in Year 7 and 8 will study all the core skills needed for a successful completion of the GCSE curriculum. It is therefore vital that students are completing all assessments, homework and classwork to the best of their ability. In addition, an increase in reading quantity and variety is required. This is particularly important as students at GCSE must be able to access 19th, 20th and 21st century fiction and non-fiction. I have attached, for your guidance, a suggested reading list which will offer a wider reading choice of books. We encourage students to carry a book at all times in school, allowing them to participate in Library lessons and Form Time reading activities. To support our students in the development of their reading skills, we will be re-launching the Accelerated Reader Programme as of September 2017. Our expectation is that students read for a minimum of 30 minutes a day. Students in Year 7 will be provided with a reading record for use in school and a bookmark requiring a weekly parental signature.

I would also like to take this opportunity to outline the Department's Code of Conduct. We set extremely high expectations of work ethic and behaviour and any disruption or disrespect is taken extremely seriously. We fully utilise the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy and any consistent poor behaviour will be referred to Mrs Hyde, Director of English and Literacy. We fully support students with additional needs and encourage an open channel of communication to overcome any barriers to learning.

I have attached further guidance about skills assessed, assessment criteria and the schemes of learning covered across the two years. However, if you do have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your son or daughter's English teacher in the first instance or myself thereafter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs T Yelland
Assistant Subject Leader English

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