

Welcome to

English



What will you learn about in English?

English lessons at Durrington introduce students to a wide range of exciting and culturally influential books. In Year 7, they read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell and learn about the art of rhetoric, and in Years 8 and 9 they study a vibrant selection of poetry, plays and novels such as *Of Mice and Men* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Non fiction is also a feature in KS3 to familiarise them with the types of text they will address in English Language GCSE. In Years 10 and 11, all students take GCSEs in English Language and English Literature. At present, they study *An Inspector Calls* by JB Priestley, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare and an anthology of poetry in the English Literature GCSE. The English Language GCSE covers the skills of reading, writing and spoken communication. Over the five year English curriculum, students learn how to form and communicate their thoughts and ideas both in writing and orally. Lessons are characterised by rich class discussion and debate, stimulating text choices, the careful development of writing skills and a relentless focus on the power of words and new vocabulary.

Why is it so important to study English?

Communication and language skills are essential for survival and success in the modern world. There are few careers and professions that do not require a person to demonstrate the ability to read, write and communicate with competence and confidence. This is why a pass in GCSE English is a prerequisite for entry onto most college and university courses. Beyond this, the study of literature can bring great joy and solace to young people, encouraging them to ask questions of the world around them and helping them to see the world afresh through the eyes of others. By developing an appreciation for language, young people are able to take control of their lives and communicate their thoughts, feelings and desires with clarity, verve and conviction. Those who enjoy or achieve highly in English are well prepared for careers in journalism, law, education, media, advertising and much, much more.

GCSE Results 2020

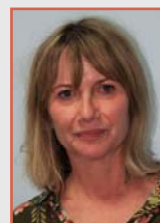
Name	Entries	9 - 4 %	9 - 5 %	9 - 7 %
English	303	85%	74%	35%
English Languages	303	80%	67%	29%
English Literature	302	75%	66%	29%

Department Leadership



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'I enjoy the fact that one word has so many different meanings. I find myself looking at connotations of words everywhere'

Eloise, year 11