

ENGLISH AT STANBOROUGH

In English we help students to develop a life-long love of language and literature.



Our aim is to ensure not only that students achieve the best qualifications they can but that they enjoy their experience of English.

We want them to read with enthusiasm and understanding and write with confidence and style. They should also be able to listen to others with respect and attention and talk with confidence in formal and informal situations.

By the time they leave Stanborough, students will be able to appreciate a wide range of texts and express their thoughts and feelings clearly, accurately and creatively in both speech and writing.

CURRICULUM KS3

During Key Stage 3 students will read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts. They will read a classic novel and several contemporary texts and study a play by William Shakespeare.

Students will develop their writing skills by writing in a range of fiction and non-fiction forms. We will also teach them how to adapt their writing to suit different audiences and purposes.

We also want students to develop their competence and confidence as users of spoken language. During Key Stage 3 they will develop their speaking skills by giving talks and making presentations .

Year 7

Reading

- The Graveyard Book, Neil Gaiman
- Poetry by Heart
- A Midsummer Night's Dream, Shakespeare

Writing

- Autobiography
- Persuasive Writing
- Descriptive Writing

Year 8

Reading

- A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens
- Poetry — Other Voices
- Macbeth by William Shakespeare

Writing

- Gothic Horror
- Travel Writing
- Letters and Diaries

CURRICULUM KS4

We use the AQA exam board for our examinations in GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Students learn how to give informed personal and critical responses to a range of challenging texts from prose , poetry, drama and non-fiction. They develop skills of close analysis of how writers use language and structure to convey their ideas. These skills provide a foundation for a more sophisticated personal and critical evaluation of the impact of the texts on their readers.

Students also develop their writing skills by writing in a wide range of forms for different audiences and purposes. They learn how to use paragraphs and sentence structure effectively and how to give texts an overall shape. Important basic skills such as spelling, punctuation and grammar are also developed so that students can write accurately as well as effectively.

GCSE English Language

Paper 1 (50%)

Analysing how writers communicate information and ideas in non-fiction texts

Paper 2 (50%)

Exploring how writers create impact and effect in literary fiction texts

GCSE English Literature

Paper 1 (50%)

Analysing and evaluating contemporary drama and prose fiction

Paper 2 (50%)

Analysing and evaluating classic and contemporary poetry and a Shakespeare play

CURRICULUM KS5

There are two possible A-Level courses that students of English can follow: AQA 'A' A-Level English Language or AQA 'B' A-Level English Literature.

In A-Level English Language there are no set texts as students are learning how to apply a wide range of theories and ideas about language to unseen texts as well as creating their own texts and commenting on their own choices of language and structure.

The coursework involves creative writing and an opportunity to investigate an aspect of language of their own choice in negotiation with their teacher.

In A-level Literature students will study either crime writing or political writing by studying one post-2000 prose text and two others, including one poetry text and one pre-1900 text.

Texts studied may include *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, *Songs of Innocence and Experience* by William Blake and *A Handmaid's Tail* by Margaret Atwood. Students will also be expected to analyse an unseen text in the exam.

Students will also study a range of texts within the genre of tragedy or comedy. Texts studied may include *Othello* by William Shakespeare, *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, *Brighton Rock* by Graham Greene and *Atonement* by Ian McEwan.

Students have a freer choice about which texts to study for their coursework but must link their ideas to an anthology of critical writing supplied by the exam board. Their responses to the texts in their coursework can be both critical and creative.

RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

There are ten dedicated English classrooms and a Learning Resource centre with a selection of classic and contemporary texts for students to read.

One English classroom contains a suite of computers and there are ten other computer rooms to which teachers can take their students when required.

We have designed a subject-specific website to support our students with preparation for their GCSE exams at : stanboroughenglish.wixsite.com/english

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN ENGLISH

Previous extra-curricular activities have included:

Performances of Shakespeare in school by travelling theatre companies

Visits to London theatres to see performances of set drama texts

Poetry and short story writing competitions are held each year

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL

Curriculum Leaflet 2020

English