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**ENGLISH AT THE BOURNE ACADEMY**

**KS3 English (Years 7,8 & 9)**

During each year of KS3, students will study a range of texts and writing styles. In preparation for KS4 (where English GCSEs are currently 100% exam), all students will have an exam every half-term based on their current unit of study. These exams will be unseen by both students and their class teachers and will therefore demonstrate students’ true abilities. Should students need extra support to attain their target levels, English Additional Learning classes are held each half-term on either a Tuesday (year 9)or Thursday (years 7 and 8) from 3pm-4pm, culminating in an exam re-test.

**Important things for you to know about English in year 7:**

In English, in year 7, we look especially at refreshing and refining basic literacy skills. We also emphasise the importance of polite and cooperative conversation to enhance learning as we believe that, in order to excel in both English language and literature, students need to be experts in all areas of grammar and punctuation.

This year we are studying the following texts:

* Romeo and Juliet- William Shakespeare

They will also study one of the following novels:

* ‘The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas’ - John Boyne
* ‘Skellig’ - David Almond
* ‘Millions’ - Frank Cottrell Boyce
* ‘Underground to Canada’ - Barbara Smucker

Students will also study a range of poetry, non-fiction and modern plays.

**Important things for you to know about English in year 8:**

In English, in year 8, we study a range of different texts, from fiction to non-fiction. This covers a range of writing styles, from creative writing to newspaper reports, and continues to build up the skills necessary for success at the end of KS3. We also revisit grammar and punctuation skills, both basic and higher level, and teach increasingly complex uses in order to improve the accuracy and sophistication of the students’ written assessments.

In English this year, we are studying the following books:

* A Shakespeare play: ‘The Merchant of Venice’ OR ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’
* Short Stories from other cultures – ‘Twisters’
* A modern Novel – ‘Private Peaceful’ OR ‘The Black Book of Secrets’

**Important things for you to know about English in year 9:**

In English, in year 9, we look especially at Literary Heritage texts, including poetry, prose and drama. We believe that it is important to explore the literary canon and consolidate the importance of social and historical context, the writers’ intentions and the themes and attitudes they explore through the texts they have written. This links to the skills required for the Edexcel English Literature GCSE, where students will have to study poetry, prose and drama in context for a range of examination questions.

This year we are studying the following texts:

* Gothic Literature
* A Shakespeare play – ‘Much Ado About Nothing’ OR ‘Julius Caesar’
* A modern novel – ‘Stone Cold’, ‘Noughts & Crosses’ OR ‘Cirque De Freak’

**KS4 English (Years 10 & 11)**

In years 10 and 11, all work is towards the GCSE qualifications:

* CIE iGCSE English Language
* Edexcel Certificate in Literature

These are both independent GCSE qualifications.

**Important things for you to know about English in year 10:**

In English, in year 10, we focus the majority of the year on the iGCSE coursework assignments (60%). These include:

* A letter of response to an article
* A descriptive piece
* An argumentative/persuasive article
* Preparation for an audio recorded 10 minute Speaking & Listening presentation/discussion on a student chosen topic (20%)

This year we are studying the following texts:

* A range of newspaper articles on challenging topics, such as the use of guns, the death penalty and stereotyping
* A modern play – ‘An Inspector Calls’

**Important things for you to know about English in year 11:**

In English, in year 11, we focus the start of the academic year on the iGCSE written examination, which takes place in November (results in January) and the iGCSE Speaking and Listening exam. Those who need to revisit written coursework (completed in year 10) are also given the opportunity and the support needed.

The rest of the academic year is then devoted to completing the English Literature GCSE (Edexcel Certificate in English Literature). This involves:

* Study of a play – ‘An Inspector Calls’ (25%)
* Study of a novel – ‘Of Mice and Men’ (25%)
* Study of a selection of poems (as provided by the exam board) (25%)
* Study of unseen poems (25%)

**Please email the Subject leader on** [**Loretta.conway@thebourneacademy.com**](mailto:Loretta.conway@thebourneacademy.com) **if you have any questions about the curriculum or about your child’s progress during the year.**

**KS5 English (Years 12 & 13 6th Form)**

In the sixth form, we study the AQAB A Level in English Language and Literature.

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| **AS Examinations** |  | AS  Award  1726 |
| **Unit 1 - ELLB1F**  **Introduction to Language and Literature Study**  60% of AS, 30% of A Level  1 hour 45 minutes written examination  96 marks  Two questions: one on an unseen text(s) related to the theme(s) of the Anthology, produced by AQA as a set text; the second on the Anthology itself.  Available January and June |  |
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| **Unit 2 - ELLB2**  **Themes in Language and Literature**  40% of AS, 20% of A Level  Coursework Unit  64 marks  Two-part assignment on chosen pair of texts: discussion of a set theme in relation to the texts; a piece of creative writing, demonstrating understanding of texts as a whole.  Available January and June |

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| **A2 Examinations** |  | A Level  Award  2726 |
| **Unit 3 - ELLB3**  **Talk in Life and Literature**  30% of A Level  2 hour written examination  96 marks  Two questions: one based on extract from prescribed play; one requiring comparison of unseen texts.  Available January and June |  |
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| **Unit 4 - ELLB4**  **Text Transformation**  20% of A Level  Coursework Unit  64 marks  Coursework folder of transformed texts and associated commentary or commentaries. Available January and June |

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