IGCSE ENGLISH FIRST LANGUAGE

Why is English First Language important?

- To operate successfully in the workplace you must be fluent readers, writers and speakers of English. Employers expect this as a minimum.
- Colleges and institutions of higher education will always look carefully at your English grade. Overseas universities often have a minimum grade/requirement for English which you must meet in order to gain places with them.

Course Content

- Argumentative/discursive writing
- Descriptive writing
- Narrative writing
- Intensive reading
- Language analysis
- Summary writing
- Report writing/Magazine features/Formal and informal letters/speech writing/Transcript writing

How will I learn?

In lessons you will be encouraged to:

- Experiment with tone and register
- Think quickly and practically about your choice of language
- Inhabit characters from texts
- Discuss and analyse how language is used. Then write in a variety of styles
- Experiment with speech devices and figurative language
- Select what information is pressing and urgent (cutting the superfluous)

How will I be assessed?

- The assessment is by coursework (50%) and one examination (50%)
- Exam: Reading Passages (2 hours) 50% - The one examination is primarily an assessment of the candidate’s reading skills
- Coursework – 3 pieces: 1) Creative / Descriptive 2) Response to Text 3) Argumentative / Informative

Post IGCSE opportunities

- AS/A-Level English Literature
- Careers in all fields including journalism/marketing/hospitality/law

Department Policy

This year, all of our students will take First Language English, plus English Literature. The coursework option allows for a slow and precise development of written language skills. Our goal is for as many students as possible to attain a grade C or above in First Language. We will have three groups. All groups will be studying First Language and Literature in Year 10. At the end of Year 10, the department will decide if the student should continue with the Literature course, or concentrate on the study of English Language; those who study English Language only in Year 11 will have more time to develop their basic English skills, in oral and written terms.

Contact for further information

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