







Fairfield High School Curriculum Overview – English Key Stage 4

At Fairfield High School, our Key Stage 4 English curriculum empowers students to develop both a love of literature and the essential skills of communication that will serve them for life. Through rich encounters with classic and modern texts, pupils learn to **question**, to **empathise**, and to **think critically** about the world around them.

We aim for every student to leave KS4 as confident readers, articulate writers, and thoughtful speakers, able to explore complex ideas with curiosity and conviction. The study of English at Fairfield equips pupils not only to succeed in their GCSE examinations, but also to appreciate the enduring **power of language to shape society, express identity, and inspire change**.

Our carefully sequenced curriculum blends the analytical demands of English Literature with the creativity and precision of English Language. Students will study and explore iconic works such as **Romeo and Juliet, An Inspector Calls, and Jekyll & Hyde**, alongside **Love & Relationships poetry, modern & historical non-fiction**, and opportunities for their **own imaginative and descriptive writing**. Across the two years, pupils refine their ability to **interpret, evaluate, craft, and perform**, culminating in rigorous exam preparation and the development of life-long literacy skills.

→ Year 10	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Teaching & Learning Topic.	An Inspector Calls 	Family poems + assessment Descriptive & narrative writing 	Reading fiction 	Shakespeare - Romeo and Juliet 	R&J and Love Anthology poems 	Unseen and Discursive (non-fiction) Writing. 
Assessment Details and skills.	Literature Paper 2 Section A. Choice of two questions analysis Priestley's presentation of a theme or character	Literature Paper 2 Section B Poetry comparison	Language Paper 1 Section A & B. Comprehension and analysis of an extract from a novel and creative writing. (split over 2 lessons)	No assessment	Literature Paper 1 Section A. Analysis of an extract whole play, context and writer's intentions.	Literature Paper 2 Section C – unseen poetry

→ Year 11	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Teaching & Learning Topic.	Reading non-fiction Also – complete spoken language component	Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	Revision	Revision	Revision	
Assessment Details and skills.	Language Paper 2 Section A. Analysing, comparing and evaluating non-fiction extracts. Language Paper 2 Section B. Extended transactional writing on a current affair topic Preparing and performing a speech using standard, formal spoken English.	Literature Paper 1 Section B. Analysis of an extract and the whole novel.	GCSE Papers	GCSE Papers	GCSE Papers	

How the Curriculum Embodies Our Values

- **Aspirational for All:** Pupils study canonical texts (Romeo and Juliet, An Inspector Calls, Jekyll & Hyde) with the ambition to master challenging ideas and achieve their highest potential. Rigorous exam preparation builds resilience and determination.
- **Responsible Global Citizens:** Through themes of justice, love, inequality, and identity in drama, poetry, and non-fiction, pupils learn to consider perspectives beyond their own, developing empathy, cultural awareness, and a sense of social responsibility.
- **Enterprising, Creative & Innovative:** Language study cultivates adaptable, practical communication skills — persuasive speaking, clear writing, and confident presentation — preparing students for the demands of work, further study, and active citizenship. Whether imagining their own narratives, interpreting Shakespeare in fresh ways, or crafting original speeches, pupils are encouraged to take risks, experiment with ideas, and express themselves with originality and flair.