

CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY

choices
Booklet



BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

English Language and Literature

English is a dynamic subject and central to the College curriculum.

At Key Stage 4 we aim to:

- **develop students' understanding of a range of challenging fiction and non-fiction** texts, including writing from the 19th, 20th and 21st century
- encourage students to become the best they can be by offering expert subject specialists and five English lessons per week.
- offer opportunities to become critical, independent thinkers
- encourage students to think beyond their text, classroom and community, and to respect the world contexts they are living in
- fully prepare students for their terminal GCSE examinations.

All students will study both English Language and English Literature, for which they will gain two GCSEs. Students will begin preparation for their GCSEs in Year 9 and will work on themed units that focus on developing their reading and writing skills. Students will be given opportunities to read a range of engaging and challenging texts and will be encouraged to write creatively. All GCSE students are encouraged to develop independence, resilience and a commitment to excellence.

In Years 10 and 11, students will focus their studies on the set examination texts and will continue to **develop as readers and writers**. The set GCSE texts are: 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens, 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare, 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley and a collection of war and



“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

Qualification: GCSE
Grades Available: 1 - 9
Exam board: AQA

conflict poetry. Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will explore a range of literary and non-fiction texts and will complete formal, GCSE-style assessments throughout the three-year course. All students will sit four terminal exams at the end of Year 11 and will be awarded a level between 1 and 9. A 'good' GCSE pass will be classified as gaining a level 5 or above. At KS4 students will study the following:

Year 9

Literature: 'Of Mice and Men', 'White Poppies' (a play about WW1), Romeo and Juliet

Language: A range of English language units which develop reading and writing skills. These units are often themed - for example: 'Fighting for Freedom', and 'Modern Living' - and focus on promoting debate and engagement.

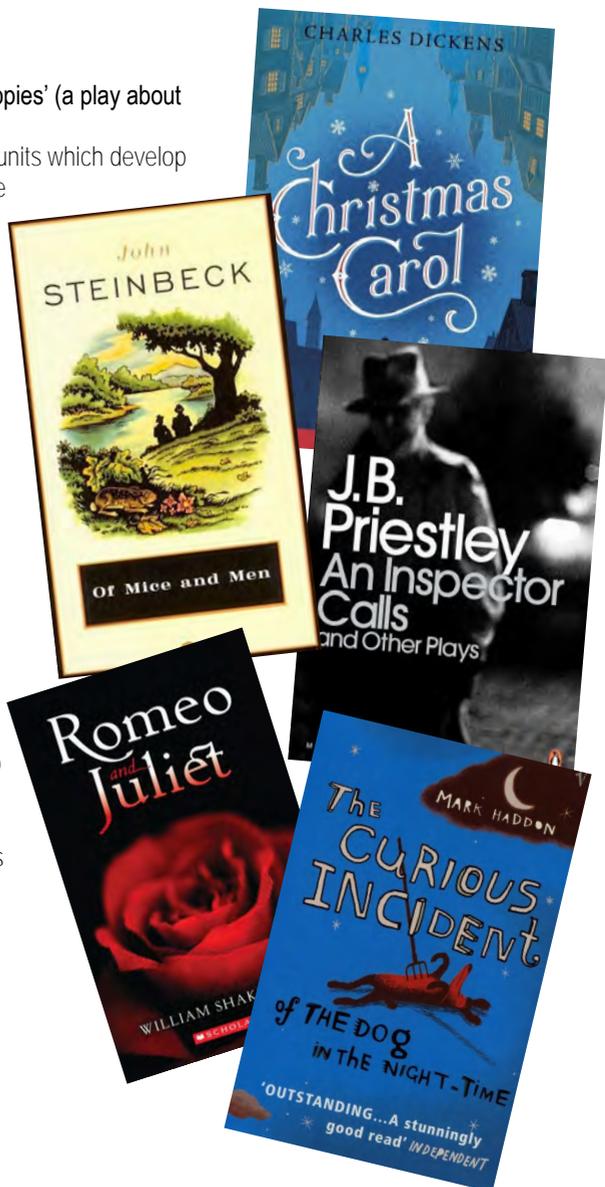
Years 10 and 11

A Christmas Carol, Unseen Poetry, Power and Conflict Poetry, Language Paper 1 and 2 (19th, 20th and 21st century fiction and non-fiction, Spoken Language, 'An Inspector Calls'/Lord of the Flies/'The Curious Incident of the Dog'.

Assessment is as follows:

- there are no controlled assessments
- GCSE English Language has two examination papers
- GCSE English Literature also has two examination papers
- spoken language skills are assessed through a single task and the award is reported alongside the GCSE Language grade. The spoken language assessment is separate from the GCSE Language qualification
- examination papers are not tiered. All students take the same examination papers, regardless of ability.

English: a qualification for life



Geography

Qualification: GCSE
Grades Available: 1 - 9
Exam board: AQA

GCSE Geography follows the new specification AQA course. The department links the learning through Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 to allow students to develop skills to support the next level or achievement. The course is supported with teacher prepared PowerPoints and an online textbook to allow students to tailor the speed of their learning and access resources 24 hours a day. The **resources are also available for access during lessons using student's electronic devices to allow all learners to research and expand their knowledge during the lesson to reach the highest grades.**

Why study Geography?

Geography is an optional subject but is part of the Government's flagship Baccalaureate level achievement for GCSE. Our subject links both physical features and human impacts covering a topic range from plate tectonics and coasts to development of poor countries and population. We study the reasons why the world is like it is, so we can understand what we see and how it was formed.

What you will study

The course follows on from your Key Stage 3 topics building on depth and knowledge while developing skills to critically question how something has formed or why a country has developed. The course requires mathematics skills to complete graphs and interpret resources, while building **on student's literacy with command words and explanation.**

How you will be assessed

This is a linear course with the only examinations at the end of Year 11. Students will sit three papers. Paper one will focus on physical geography topics, paper two will focus on human geography topics and paper three will focus on explaining the fieldwork covered during the course and geographical skills. There is no coursework in this GCSE specification, students are still required to undertake fieldwork but will be questioned on this during paper three.

Where can the subject lead?

Any career involving geography allows access to a wide range of jobs areas as well as creating a key understanding of the world around us.

- cartographer
- commercial/residential surveyor
- environmental consultant
- geographical information systems officer
- planning and development surveyor
- secondary school teacher
- town planner.

"It's a challenge, but it's worth it." - Kiera

"I enjoy geography because I can work at my own pace." - Amelia



History

Qualification: GCSE
Grades Available: 1 - 9
Exam board: AQA

From history students are able to understand a little better about the events which have formed the world we live in today.

Why study History?

History is the story of people - the clue is in the name. We learn about where society has advanced from, the challenges that have been faced and hopefully some lessons for the future. If you have ever looked at anything, a country, a group or people or a system of government, and wondered 'why?' - then you are thinking about history. History offers students skills in analysis and communication, the ability to use information, present a view or an argument and explain this fluently.

What you will study

The course follows on from your KS3 lessons with four main units:

- Germany 1890-1945
- Conflict and Tension 1894-1918
- Power and the People c1170-to the present day
- The Normans 1066-c1100.

These cover a range of British and world history across the last thousand years.



How you will be assessed

The course finishes with two exams covering two units per exam. There are either four or six questions to answer per unit and these are a combination of shorter explanations, source responses and detailed written answers. During the course we will practice these and develop our skills in tackling them.

Where can the subject lead?

History has a natural pathway into studying A-levels and degrees, and then into any career involving the use and manipulation of information; from teaching to work in the heritage sector to advertising. And many famous comedians started as historians!

“GCSE History has helped me develop clinical skills that I can apply outside of school.” - Grace



Mathematics

Qualification: GCSE
Grades Available: 1 - 9
Exam board: Edexcel

At Key Stage 4 we are lucky enough to see you for an extra period a week to make sure we can prepare you for the GCSE exam.

Why study Maths?

Maths is a compulsory subject in schools but it is also a very useful one. You will do maths in lots of your other lessons without even realising it! We regularly see maths in science, geography, art, even English.

What you will study

The course is in four parts

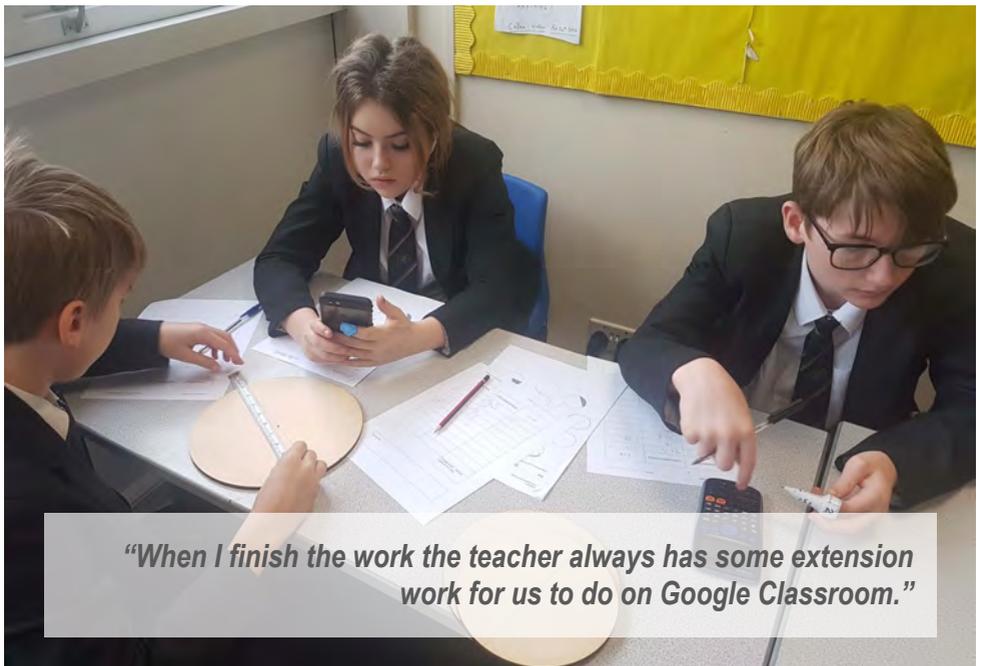
- number
- algebra
- shape
- data handling.

How you will be assessed

You will have three exams at the end of Year 11. One of them is non calculator.

Where can the subject lead?

Most courses and careers expect a good pass in maths and we will help you get that.



“When I finish the work the teacher always has some extension work for us to do on Google Classroom.”



"I come to maths every Tuesday after school. It's really helpful."

Science

Qualification: GCSE
Grades Available: 1 - 9
Exam board: AQA

Here at the College, most students follow a 'combined science' course worth two GCSEs, with some invited to study separate sciences, also known as 'triple science' worth three GCSEs. The courses are broadly the same, with the separate sciences having additional content spread throughout the course.

Why study Science?

Science is compulsory in schools for a reason, it explains how things work! If you have ever looked at anything, either living or machine, and wondered 'how?' - then you are thinking about science.



Many careers require good attainment in science and even non related professions seek scientists as they have problem solving and analytical skills.

What you will study

The course follows on from your KS3 lessons with the three main science areas.

- chemistry - the material world
- biology - the living world
- physics - the fundamental principles of life.

There will also be lots of problem solving, practice exam questions and opportunities for completing practical investigations.

How you will be assessed

The course finishes with six exams, two in each of the science disciplines listed above. This is the **same for both 'combined science' and 'separate sciences' but the latter has longer exams.** You will be assessed on the practical tasks you complete throughout the course in those exams, there is no coursework.

Where can the subject lead?

Any career involving health, animal care, engineering, manufacturing, research, teaching, as well as many non-related professions - many accountants are science graduates!

"The very nature of science is discoveries, and the best of those discoveries are the ones you don't expect."



**READY
RESPECT
SAFE**



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