



# THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## Our Intention

The heart of our ethos is to make learning the breadth of English Language and Literature exciting and engaging so that it imbues students with the confidence to tackle challenging texts. We believe that confidence breeds success and we want our students to be successful communicators, confident readers and expressive writers.

The English department are proud to be a beacon of best practice at TQEA. Our continued success at GCSE highlights our commitment to ensuring students achieve their true potential. This is done through high expectations and the delivery of excellent teaching.

Please see our website to find out more about the texts we study at GCSE.

## Contact

@TQEA\_English



## English's Implementation

All teachers follow a Long-Term Plan which has sequenced learning and robust assessment points. This learning is interleaved and built upon through the teaching of knowledge and skills.

## The KS3 Reading Challenge

We want all of our students to be lifelong readers and to enjoy reading for pleasure as much as we do. In Years 7 and 8, students participate in a reading challenge which requires them to read 10 books over the course of a year from a variety of different genres. There are a number of prizes available for every student who successfully completes each of the mini challenges as well as rewards for the class with the highest success rate at the end of the year.

To commit to reading, every English lesson starts with 5 minutes of independent reading. Our library is well stocked with the latest titles from contemporary authors as well as a range of classics, poetry and non-fiction texts. Each class receives a library lesson once a fortnight which provides students with the opportunity to select or renew their books as well as complete their reading journal.

## Homework

Homework is set according to the school policy. Being confident readers and users of vocabulary is integral to the success of our students which is why Year 7 and 8 homework is based around these two skills. Students will alternate between completing reading at home (to help support them in the completion of our reading challenge) and exploring the etymology of prefixes and suffixes in order to help them form connections when encountering new words in all subjects.

## Assessment and Feedback

Students are assessed twice every half term in English with each task linked to the knowledge and skills taught in the unit of study.

Feedback will drive the course of lessons and this will be provided on a regular basis. The greatest and most used form of feedback is verbal. Written marking is completed a minimum of every 4 weeks and includes students being provided with a praise comment and a target to which they respond. Whole Class Feedback sheets are also used and students will be expected to make meaningful responses to them too.