

Our Mission at The Burgate School & Sixth Form

We provide a broad and diverse curriculum with a creative approach to learning that inspires curiosity, encourages collaboration, builds resilience, and develops flexibility of thought.

English

English Department

Year	Topics		Enquiry Questions	Supportive Resources
7	Autumn	<p>‘Building Foundations’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An introduction to creative writing and character building • Analysing heroes & villains across Literature • Book study: <i>Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief</i>, Rick Riordan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I introduce a character in a story? • What is a canon? • What are hero and villain archetypes and how have these evolved over time? • How do I analyse authors’ language choices to make inferences about a character? • What is the plot of <i>Percy Jackson</i> and how is it inspired by the Greek Gods? • How does the protagonist Percy Jackson develop? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watching some of these videos defining heroes and villains here • Reading more about characterisation on BBC bitesize here • Reading <i>Percy Jackson and the Sea of Monsters</i>
	Spring	<p>‘Imagining the Future’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and Writing Dystopian Fiction • Book study: <i>The Hunger Games</i>, Suzanne Collins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is ‘dystopia’ and ‘utopia’? • How does <i>The Hunger Games</i> conform to the generic conventions of dystopian writing? • What is the plot of ‘Hunger Games’ and how is it structured to build suspense? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watching this video on dystopia here

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I analyse the authors' language and structure choices to make inferences about setting? • How do I introduce a setting in a story? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading more about setting on BBC bitesize here • Reading <i>The Hunger Games: Catching Fire</i> 	
	Summer	<p>'The World Around Us'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading poetry about nature • Reading & writing literary non-fiction • Book study: <i>The Best British Travel Writing of the 21st Century</i>, Jessica Vincent (ed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I write a literature essay justifying my opinion about a poem? • How do I approach an unseen poem to work out its interpretations? • How has poetry been used since the Romantic era to celebrate and explore nature? • What is a travelogue? • How do I analyse a non-fiction authors' language choices to make inferences about their perspectives? • How do I write an effective travelogue? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading advice about how to write an essay on BBC bitesize here • Reading more about non-fiction writing on BBC bitesize here • Reading <i>Notes from a Small Island</i>, Bill Bryson 	
8	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Literature: <i>Of Mice and Men</i>, John Steinbeck • 'Campaigning for Change': Reading and Writing persuasively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the plot of <i>Of Mice and Men</i>? • How does the context of 1930's America inform our reading of <i>Of Mice and Men</i>? • How does Steinbeck use structural devices such as foreshadowing? • How can I analyse a character in detail, tracking their changes throughout a novella? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the persuasive devices and how are they used? • How does reading persuasive speeches enhance my ability to write my own speech? • How can I plan my own campaign for a cause I believe in? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing Seneca activities on <i>Of Mice and Men</i> • Reading advice about writing and giving speeches on BBC Bitesize here

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does reading non-fiction inform my understanding of the narrative? 		
Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Identity and Belonging': Contemporary Poetry C20 Drama: <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time</i>, Simon Stephens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I analyse poetry? (poetic devices, structure, and poetic voice) How does contemporary poetry differ from 19th century poetry? How do poets express their personal views of the world through their poetry? How do I write a literature essay justifying my opinion about a poem? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the differences between a novella and a play? How does Stephens present relationships between characters? How does knowledge of ASD inform my knowledge of the play? How can I write analytically about a play script? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading advice about analysing poetry on BBC Bitesize here Reading the novel version of <i>A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time</i>, Mark Haddon 	
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shakespeare: <i>Romeo & Juliet</i> 'Espionage and Intrigue': Reading and Writing Spy Fiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the plot of <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> and how does understanding of dramatic irony increase our enjoyment of the play? What is a sonnet? How can I analyse key extracts of the play within the wider context of the play as a whole? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the conventions of spy fiction? How does reading spy stories enhance my ability to write my own? How can I structure a story to engage the reader? How can I plan a spy story of my own? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading more about the play on BBC Bitesize here Reading advice about writing stories on BBC bitesize here Reading <i>Stormbreaker</i>, Anthony Horowitz 	

9	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Our Literary Heritage': Reading & Writing Short stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is genre and what are different generic conventions? • How have key genres e.g., Gothic evolved over time? • How do I write a developed analysis of the language and structure of a short story extract? • How do I evaluate the validity of an interpretation and justify my opinion about a text? • How can I use my knowledge of genre to write an effective story opening? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading more about how to analyse fiction texts on BBC Bitesize here • Reading a gothic novel e.g., <i>The Woman in Black</i>, Susan Hill 	
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War Poetry • Public speaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I apply historical context to enhance my understanding of a poem and to help provide alternative interpretations? • How do I meaningfully analyse a poet's language and structural choices? • How do I write a detailed essay with developed paragraphs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is 'rhetoric'? • Who was Aristotle and what did he believe makes effective rhetoric (the Aristotelian Triad)? • How do I structure a persuasive speech? • How do I deliver a speech to meet the needs of my audience? 	<p>Extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watching some dramatised readings of war poems here • Completing Seneca on studied poems and making revision cards • Reading advice about writing and giving speeches on BBC Bitesize here
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Drama: <i>An Inspector Calls</i>, J.B Priestley • Explorations: 'Contemporary Literature as Social Commentary' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the plot of <i>An Inspector Calls</i>? • Who are the characters and how do they develop? • How does Priestley present and challenge Edwardian society? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does Literature respond to contemporary events? • How does reading contemporary Literature enhance 	<p>You need to buy a copy of the play <i>An Inspector Calls</i> [ISBN: 9780141185354]</p> <p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge by:</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I comment on the form of the play (e.g., Stage directions/ dramatic irony)? • How do I write a detailed essay about characters / themes? • How do I use my knowledge of the play and its context in a piece of transactional writing? 	<p>our understanding of the world around us and make us more empathetic?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I use my own writing to comment on the world I live in? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a CGP Text Guide to create revision cards and posters • Completing Seneca activities on the play • Completing the BBC Bitesize revision activities here
10	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C19 Novel: <i>A Christmas Carol</i>, Charles Dickens • Explorations: 'The History of Language' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the plot of <i>A Christmas Carol</i>? • How does knowledge of Dickens and 19th Century society impact our understanding of the novella? • How do I track a theme throughout a novella? • How do I write a detailed essay about characters/themes? • How do I use my knowledge of the novella and its context in a piece of creative writing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I track the meaning of a word through time? • How does knowledge of word etymology impact my ability to decode new vocabulary? • Why is language so powerful? 	<p>You need to buy a copy of the novel <i>A Christmas Carol</i> [ISBN: 9781789089462]</p> <p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a CGP Text Guide to create revision cards and posters • Completing Seneca activities on the novella • Working through the BBC bitesize guide on <i>A Christmas Carol</i> here and here
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shakespeare: <i>Macbeth</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the plot of <i>Macbeth</i>? • How does knowledge of Shakespeare and the historical context impact our understanding of the play? 		<p>You need to buy a copy of the play <i>Macbeth</i> [ISBN: 9781841461205]</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I track a theme throughout a play? • How do I write a detailed essay about characters/themes? • How do I use my knowledge of the play and its context in a piece of creative writing? 	<p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a CGP Text Guide to create revision cards and posters • Completing Seneca activities on the novella • Working through the BBC bitesize guide on <i>Macbeth</i> here and here 	
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary Non-Fiction: Skills for Language Paper 2 • NEA: Speaking and Listening Assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the skills required for Language Paper 2? • How can I summarise differences between texts? • How can I analyse non-fiction? • How can I compare the attitudes of writers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What skills are required to gain a pass, merit, or a distinction in this assessment? • How can I perform a speech in a way that engages my audience? • How can I answer questions in a way that is extended, detailed, and engaging? 	<p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a CGP revision guide • Working through the BBC bitesize guide on Language Paper 2 here
11	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power & Conflict Anthology • Skills practice: Language Paper 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I identify and comment on different poetic forms? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the skills required for Language Paper 2? 	<p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge by:</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the context of the poems in the anthology? • How does each poet in the anthology use language and structure to explore different ideas about power/conflict? • How do different poems connect to each other? • How do I structure a comparative essay? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I summarise differences between texts? • How can I analyse non-fiction? • How can I compare attitudes of writers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a CGP revision guide for the Power and Conflict anthology • Completing revision activities on Seneca • Working through the BBC bitesize guide to the set poems here • Working through the BBC bitesize guide on Language Paper 2 here
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unseen Poetry • Skills practice: Language Paper 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I analyse poetry independently under time pressure? • How can I confidently explore the ambiguity of a poem's message? • How do I write a literature essay justifying my opinion about a poem? • How do I compare to unseen poems? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the skills required for Language Paper 1? • How can I analyse an author's language and structure choices? • How can I evaluate a piece of fiction and justify my opinion about a text? • How do I write a successful description/narrative under time pressure? 	<p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing revision activities on Seneca • Working through the BBC bitesize guide to the analysing poems here • Working through the BBC bitesize guide on Language Paper 1 here

	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revision for GCSE exams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I revise successfully? How can I improve my time-management in exams? How can I apply my knowledge more effectively in an exam context? 	Use CGP revision guides and BBC bitesize to revise	
12 Language	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills: Language Levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the language levels? How can I identify the representations in a text? How can I use my knowledge of the language levels to analyse texts in depth? How can I compare meanings and representations in different texts from different time periods? How can I structure an analytical exam response? How can I structure a comparison response? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can support your learning of key grammatical terms using the link below: https://englishatlc.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/a-level-language-glossary-2015-specification.pdf <p>To extend your knowledge, buy and read one of the following books:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Crystal, <i>A Little Book of Language</i> Bill Bryson, <i>Mother Tongue</i> Jean Aitchison, <i>The Language Web</i> Deborah Cameron, <i>The Myth of Mars and Venus</i> 	
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language and Diversity (Gender, Occupation, Social Groups) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the important linguistic theories regarding language and gender, occupation and social groups? How can I use my knowledge of linguistic theory to evaluate a statement? How can I structure an evaluative essay? 		
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language and Diversity (Language Change and Global English) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the important linguistic theories regarding Language Change and Global English? How can I use my knowledge of linguistic theory to evaluate a statement? How can I structure an evaluative essay? 		
12 Literature	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prose: <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>. Khaled Hosseini & Poetry: Romanticism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is prose? What is the plot of <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is Romanticism? Who are the notable Romantic poets? 	You need to buy a copy of the following texts:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the cultural, political and social context of production? • How can I confidently analyse an A-Level text? • How do I structure an A-Level essay on a novel? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I confidently analyse and evaluate a poet's methods? • How do I structure an essay exploring 2 poems? • How do I revise effectively for Paper 3? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>. Khaled Hosseini [ISBN: 9781526604750] • <i>English Romantic Verse</i>, David Wright (ed) [ISBN: 9780140421026] • <i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i> [ISBN: 9780141439594] <p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge of set texts by consulting Litcharts, York Notes, Victorian Web as well as the links provided by teachers</p> <p>Enhance your understanding by reading widely from the recommended reading lists</p>
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i>, Thomas Hardy • Poetry: Romanticism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the plot of <i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i> • What is the cultural, political and social context of production? • How has the reception of the novel changed over time? • What are the thematic connections with <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>? 		
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills: Prose comparison • An Introduction to the NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I revise effectively for Paper 1? • How do I structure a comparative essay? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the NEA? • How do I plan my project? • How do I research effectively? 	<p>Watch the following advice videos from the exam board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on the NEA here • Advice on Paper 2 here
13 Language	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Language Development • NEA Language Investigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does children's language develop? • How can I analyse the different stages of child language development? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Language Investigation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use websites such as Seneca to revise key terms and theorists. • Read widely from a range of non-fiction to

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the important linguistic theories around child language development? • How can I respond to a statement using my knowledge of development and theory? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I complete meaningful research? • How can I meet all the assessment objectives within the word limit? • How can I synthesise my research into a coherent report? 	<p>encourage understanding of writers' attitudes as well using a narrative voice in writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use past papers to complete questions in timed conditions
Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills: Analysis and Comparison • NEA Original Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I use my knowledge of terminology to analyse writers' attitudes to language change? • How can I compare subtle differences in writers' attitudes to language change? • How can I use my knowledge of linguistic theory to write an opinion article? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the NEA Original Writing? • How can I analyse a chosen genre of writing? • How can I use my knowledge and analysis of a genre to write my own piece of creative/non-fiction writing? • How can I successfully comment on my choices using detailed terminology? 		
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision for public exams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I revise successfully? • How can I practice analysis of unseen texts? • How can I learn linguistic theories? 			Use your folders and revision guides to prepare for the exams

13 Literature	Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary & Unseen Poetry: <i>Poems of the Decade</i> NEA Drama: <i>Othello</i>, William Shakespeare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is contemporary poetry and how is it influenced by previous poetic movements? What are the set poems from the <i>Poems of the Decade</i>? How do I approach an unseen poem under time pressure? How do I compare an unseen poem with a studied poem in order to write a comparative response? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the plot of <i>Othello</i>? How does knowledge of Shakespeare and the historical context impact our understanding of the play? How have literary critics interpreted the play across time? How do I write a detailed essay about characters/themes using my wider reading? 	<p>You need to buy a copy of the following texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Othello</i>, William Shakespeare [ISBN: 9781853260186] <i>Sweat</i>, Lynn Nottage [ISBN: 9781848428188] <p>Support your revision and extend your knowledge of set texts by consulting Litcharts, York Notes, Victorian Web as well as the links provided by teachers</p> <p>Watch the advice from the exam board about paper 3 here</p> <p>Enhance your understanding by reading widely from the recommended reading lists</p>
	Spring / Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern Drama: <i>Sweat</i>, Lynn Nottage Drama: <i>Othello</i>, William Shakespeare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How has modern drama developed in America? What is the plot of <i>Sweat</i>? What is the cultural, political and social context of production? How do I analyse a contemporary play effectively? 		
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revision for public exams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I revise successfully? How can I improve my time-management in exams? How can I apply my knowledge more effectively in an exam context? 		<p>Use your folders and revision guides to prepare for the exams</p>