

13 English Language

In this course you are encouraged to enjoy and investigate language. We expect students to have an interest in current developments in language. We analyse in depth the structures and functions of English, examining its variety and charting its development over time. We also seek to develop your writing skills, and you will be encouraged to write with growing sophistication for different audiences and purposes. We aim to instil in our students a life-long curiosity about the power of language.

Students may progress to a number of careers, including Advertising, Media, Journalism, Publishing, Teaching and Management. One of the opportunities experienced by our A-level English students was the privilege of meeting Professor David Crystal and attending one of his lectures. Professor Crystal is a highly regarded linguist with over 100 books to his name and in his talk he spoke about British accents, their past, present and future. Much of his work is used in the A-level syllabus and the students were very interested in what Professor Crystal had to say about different accents and why we need them to express our identity. They learnt about how British accents have emerged and how they continue to evolve in a changing world.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:

Retrieval practice	Retrieval practice is an embedded part of the KS5 curriculum; retrieval activities are built into each lesson to allow students to make connections between topics and reinforce their understanding of key knowledge and skills. Independent learning tasks are also used to support retrieval of content taught in lessons.
Elaboration	Students are encouraged to make connections between prior learning and new material: regular class discussion allows students to connect new content to their own experiences and prior learning, supporting the development of schemas that lead to long-term retention of knowledge. Questioning strategies encourage elaboration – focusing on ‘How’? and ‘Why’? questions.
Dual Coding	Images, diagrams and symbols are used across the KS5 curriculum to support learning – knowledge organisers, lesson resources and teaching and learning activities all feature dual coding as embedded part of our practice.

	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Topic (s)	Unit 4: Crafting Language	Unit 1: Variation Over Time	Unit 1: Variation Over Time	Unit 1: Variation Over Time	Revision for Exams: All Components	

		Unit 3: Introduction to Language - Investigation, including mini- investigation	Unit 3: Introduction to Language - Investigation, including mini- investigation	Unit 3: Introduction to Language - Investigation, including mini- investigation		
Assessment	Regular Assessment opportunities through exam questions, presentations, research Independent learnings etc. Year 13 PPE Unit 1: Language Variation (2 hours 15mins) Unit 2: Child Language (1 hour 15mins)			Examinations		