



## English

English occupies a pre-eminent position both in the curriculum and in our society. A high quality education in English teaches our pupils to speak and write fluently, so that they can communicate precisely and powerfully in any given situation.

One of our fundamental objectives in English is to help shape young people who are both interested and interesting: interested in the world with all its magic; and interesting to those who meet them because of their wide ranging knowledge. We want to develop students who read widely for pleasure, appreciate the art of writing, relish debating any issue and enjoy sharing ideas. We want our students to have an expanding vocabulary and to understand the grammar of our language, thus enabling them to write confidently and with precision.

The study of English Literature plays a central role in our vision – we want our students to leave with knowledge of the English literary canon and of our beautiful English language; we feel it is their right to leave school understanding something of the novels, plays and poems that have shaped our country's cultural history and the language change that underpins it. The recognition of universal themes of literature also helps people to better understand their own situation, and thus empathise with others.

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss*