

# KEY STAGE FOUR SUBJECT INFORMATION

Subject Title: **GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (Compulsory Core)**

Subject Team Leader: **Mr S Barber** ([barber@perins.hants.sch.uk](mailto:barber@perins.hants.sch.uk))

Examination Board: **AQA** [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

## Course Content

The English Language GCSE encourages students to read a greater range of high quality, challenging literature including fiction and non-fiction texts from a range of genres and types and eras (from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries).

## Subject Skills

Reading and writing are equally weighted in the English Language GCSE. In Section A, the focus is on students being able to understand both the choices writers have made as well as the effects these choices have. In Section B, students are credited for making similar decisions with the language and structure of their writing, with a real focus on deliberate and ambitious choices

## Tiers

Tiers have been removed from GCSE English. Content is accessible for students of all abilities.

## Speaking & Listening

Speaking and Listening will be assessed through in-class formal speeches. There will be a bigger emphasis on teaching students to become more confident in formal presenting. Although their Spoken Language grade does not directly impact their GCSE English Language grade, they must achieve a pass in Spoken Language to pass GCSE English Language.

## Assessment

All examinations are compulsory and take place at the end of year 11.

## Examinations

Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing  
Written exam - 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of GCSE)  
Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives  
Written exam - one hour 45 minutes (50% of GCSE) Both papers cover Reading and Writing  
Non-examination formal assessment: Spoken Language, separate endorsement. This takes place in year 10.

