

Overview

All students at St Aloysius' College study both English Language and English Literature at GCSE. If they pass both subjects, it counts as triple weighting in their Progress 8 attainment. They start their official GCSE programme in Year 9, but all assessments in Year 7 and 8 are also modelled on the new specification GCSE exams.

The English Language GCSE is designed to inspire and motivate students, providing appropriate stretch and challenge whilst ensuring that the assessment and texts are, as far as possible, accessible to all students. It enables students to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts and write clearly.

We provide a high-quality education in English that will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually.

Assessment

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing 50%

1 hour 45 minutes and 80 marks in total.

Section A

- One unseen text to respond to, will be from either 20th or 21st Century
- Worth 40 marks of an 80 mark paper, in total worth 25% of Language GCSE

Section B

- One unseen image to respond to OR a scenario to explore linked to the unseen texts/image
- Worth 40 marks of an 80 mark paper, 16 for SPAG and 24 for content, in total worth 25% of Language GCSE

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives 50%

1 hour 45 minutes and 80 marks in total.

Section A

- Two unseen texts to respond to, will be from the 19th and either 20th or 21st Century, whichever does not appear in Paper 1
- Worth 40 marks of an 80 mark paper, in total worth 25% of Language GCSE

Section B

- Provided with a statement and you have to respond with your point of view
- Worth 40 marks of an 80 mark paper, 16 for SPAG and 24 for content, in total worth 25% of Language GCSE

Students also sit a 'Spoken Language Endorsement'.

Progression Pathways

After completing the English Language GCSE pupils can continue their studies in English Language or Literature at A-level at St Aloysius' College to develop the skills mentioned above or to pursue a career in a large range of areas including writing, publishing, the media, film, theatre and TV, acting and much more.

Careers

In the current economic climate, creative problem solving, analysis, synthesis and research and development skills are considered priorities in many diverse industries. You could pursue a career in a large range of areas including writing, publishing, the media, film, theatre and TV, acting and much more. A good grade in the English Language GCSE is considered an absolute must for job or further education prospects.