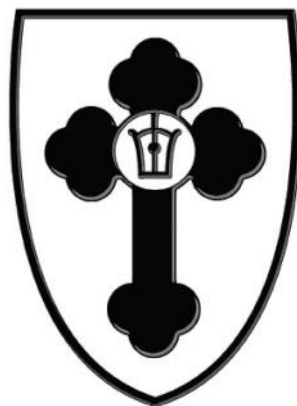


ENGLISH

**WILLIAM BROOKES
SCHOOL**



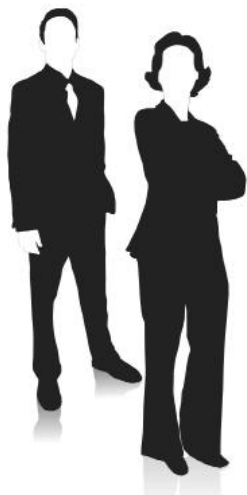
English

**Parents' English Guide
2009 - 2010**



AIMS

The Department aims to provide students with a varied range of reading, written, oral and drama activities, with the intention of helping students develop their communication skills and confidence with language in an orderly, purposeful teaching and learning environment.



ENGLISH STAFF

Mr P Braddick	Head of Department
Miss J Shenton	Assistant Head of Department
Mr J Pope	Outdoor Education Coordinator
Miss I Cerrone	
Miss S Weatherill	
Mr R Petty	Arts College Coordinator
Miss S Newell	Head of Drama
Ms R Gennard	Teaching Assistant

Courses offered:

HOMEWORK POLICY

In Years 7 and 8 students are set two homework tasks each week: one is a reading homework, and one is a writing homework. This policy continues into Year 9. At A Level and GCSE, students are set one homework/private study task. This could be a reading/research task, or note-taking, or drafting an essay.

ASSESSING STUDENTS' WORK

Students' written work is usually marked in draft form, to identify errors or omissions in content, spelling or grammar. Final drafts are assessed against nationally agreed criteria. Comments on students' work indicate the level or grade they have achieved, with advice on particular strengths and weaknesses they have shown.

Speaking and listening activities are also assessed regularly.

ACCOMMODATION

The Department uses a suite of five classrooms close to the school Library and the Arts Centre, 'The Edge'. The drama studio itself provides specialist accommodation for GCSE Drama and AS/A2 Level Theatre Studies work and also for the after school Children's Theatre Workshop and Youth Theatre Group. Please refer to the separate Parents' Guide to Drama for full details.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Students are encouraged to develop their ICT skills by:

- word-processing assessed essays or course work submissions
- using desk top publishing techniques
- researching topics on the Internet
- researching topics via CD information
- using digital camera technology
- using interactive whiteboard technology

YEAR 7

Students follow 4 units of work, in line with the National Framework:

- Understanding the writer's craft
- Text in performance
- Non fiction texts
- Language study

YEAR 8

Students follow 4 units of work as in Year 7:

- Understanding the writer's craft
- Text in performance
- Non fiction texts
- Language study

The department implements the National Literary Strategy. Please see separate leaflet on Literacy for further details.

YEAR 9

Students begin to study GCSE texts and practise GCSE skills until June 2011.

GCSE

Students are prepared for the AQA examinations in English and English Literature, or the Certificate of Achievement. Students prepare a course-work folder of five essays:

- Original writing
- Media Studies
- Shakespeare
- Pre-1914 Prose Study
- Modern drama

They are also prepared for two English examinations: English Language and Literature.

16+

The Department offers 2 syllabus alternatives at AS/A2 in the Sixth Form:

- English Literature
- English Language & Literature

