

## English at KSA

### Our Core Beliefs:

The English faculty at KSA believes firmly that there can be no subject more important than English in the school curriculum. English is a pre-eminent world language, it is at the heart of our culture and it is the language medium in which most of our pupils think and communicate.

The English faculty at KSA is committed to creating students who are confident and secure in their grasp of English, students who are articulate and able to express themselves confidently in their spoken and written language.

The English faculty at KSA recognise that literacy skills are also crucial to pupils' learning in other subjects across the curriculum and that in order to excel in their future careers that they must have the best writing, reading and communication skills possible.

### Subject Overview:

The English faculty at KSA consists of a team of enthusiastic and committed graduate teachers in brand-new state-of-the-art specialist classrooms. The faculty is supported by a well-resourced library which all students visit each week for their Accelerated Reading lessons.

Students are encouraged to become independent in their thinking and the expression of their ideas and to take responsibility for their own learning.

There is a strong emphasis on all three main components of English, Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing, in all lessons, and students are assessed regularly in all three areas.

### Aims and Learning Objectives:

KSA Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate skills in Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing in order to communicate confidently, effectively, accurately and appropriately.
- Select and adapt speech and writing to different situations and audiences.
- Become critical and analytical readers of a wide range of literary texts, using their reading skills to develop themselves as writers.
- Express themselves as writers creatively, imaginatively and concisely.
- Understand the impact of variations in language and how they relate to identity and cultural diversity.
- Understand the patterns, structures and conventions of written and spoken English.

### KS3 Topics:

Students undertake a range of language and literature work each year, including a wide range of literary texts (novel, poetry and drama), non-fiction texts and media texts.

### Year 7:

Term	Scheme of Learning
Autumn 1	Autobiographical Writing

	Creative writing / Short stories / Greek Myths
Autumn 2	Novel and author study (Skellig or Private Peaceful)
Spring 1	Non-Fiction and Media : newspapers and magazines:
Spring 2	Shakespeare
Summer 1	Love Poetry
Summer 2	Drama Text

**Year 8:**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Scheme of Learning</b>
Autumn 1	Non-Fiction texts – new school prospectus
Autumn 2	Novel and author study (The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas or The Curious Incident of the Dog at Night time)
Spring 1	Drama
Spring 2	Media text: Film
Summer 1	Shakespeare
Summer 2	WW1 Poetry

**Year 9:**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Scheme of Learning</b>
Autumn 1	Novel and author study (Of Mice and Men or To Kill A Mockingbird)
Autumn 2	Non-fiction: Travel Writing
Spring 1	Shakespeare
Spring 2	Spoken Language
Summer 1	Poetry: GCSE Preparation
Summer 2	Media text: Film

#### **KS4 Topics:**

All students at KSA will be studying towards two GCSEs. These are English Language and English Literature.

#### **English Language GCSE**

Students will complete two exam papers for English Language GCSE and are assessed on both their reading and writing skills. All texts in the examinations will be unseen.

In addition to the two exams, students will also complete a separate unit on Spoken Language. This does not count towards the English Language GCSE but is a stand-alone qualification.

#### **English Literature GCSE**

Students will complete two exam papers for English Literature GCSE.

They will study a Shakespeare play e.g. Romeo and Juliet or Macbeth, a 19<sup>th</sup> Century novel e.g. A Christmas Carol or Great Expectations, a range of themed poetry, and a modern prose or drama text e.g. An Inspector Calls or Animal Farm.

#### **Enrichment and Interventions:**

The English faculty at KSA offers a wide range of enrichment and intervention activities to support learning. These include activities such as:

- Poetry and writing competitions.
- Visiting authors and poets.

- Theatre and Cinema trips
- After school revision and catch-up sessions.

**Faculty Contacts:**

Staff Name	Email Address
Mr I Beeston (Lead Teacher for English)	<a href="mailto:i.beeston@khalsasecondaryacademy.com">i.beeston@khalsasecondaryacademy.com</a>
Ms A Pennycuick	<a href="mailto:a.pennycuick@khalsasecondaryacademy.com">a.pennycuick@khalsasecondaryacademy.com</a>
Mrs H Sidhu	<a href="mailto:h.sidhu@khalsasecondaryacademy.com">h.sidhu@khalsasecondaryacademy.com</a>

**Useful Websites:**

The following websites are particularly useful to students of English at KSA.

Students should use them regularly to help support and consolidate their learning outside of the English classroom and what they have learned in lessons.

1. [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)  
The official website of AQA with access to past papers and mark schemes.
2. [www.bbc/bitesize.co.uk](http://www.bbc/bitesize.co.uk)  
Written with students in mind.
3. [www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/english](http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/english)  
This has all sorts of helpful information to help you prepare for your exams. You can also download apps for your iPhone to help you with your English work too.
4. [www.englishbiz.co.uk](http://www.englishbiz.co.uk)  
Regularly updated and rated very positively by The Times and Guardian newspapers, as well as BBC GCSE Bitesize. It is interactive so that you can contact English teachers directly.
5. [www.u2learn.com](http://www.u2learn.com)  
A fun and creative website with all sorts of activities and games to help you with your writing.
6. [www.revisioncentre.co.uk/gcse/english](http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk/gcse/english)  
Designed to get you ready for your exams in three days. It's great for final revision.
7. [www.revisionworld.co.uk/gcse-revision](http://www.revisionworld.co.uk/gcse-revision)  
Contains all sorts of essay writing and exam tips.
8. [www.mrbruff.com](http://www.mrbruff.com)  
Written by acclaimed English teacher Andrew Bruff who has achieved over half a million views on YouTube with his English revision videos.
9. <http://www.educationquizzes.com/gcse/english/>

Offers focussed revision for Years 10 and 11.

10. [www.universalteacher.org.uk](http://www.universalteacher.org.uk)

Good resource for revising Literature texts in particular. Also some advice for comprehension skills.