

# English at Montsaye

## Overview:

The purpose of English as a core subject is to embed reading, writing and literacy skills that can be used to support subjects across the curriculum. Students will access the skills of reading comprehension, inference and exploring authorial intent, as well as building these skills in their own writing through vocabulary work. Through library lessons, reading for pleasure and academic success is embedded into KS3 to support other whole-school reading initiatives. Our all-through spiral curriculum offers students the opportunities to work on the skills and text types required for study at KS4, as well as having developed a range of cognitive skills to sensitively and empathetically discuss societal issues. There, students will undertake study of Literature and Language, with all submitted for both subjects. These are taught in combination with one another, with a focus on content and skills in Year 10, followed by reflection and targeted review of content in Year 11. GCSE study culminates with four exams, two in each of Language and Literature, resulting in two separate GCSEs being awarded. These are essential qualifications for either future study in English, or in accessing further education or employment.

## Intent:

“We believe the study of English should enable learners to become confident and creative young people – it is important for them to leave us feeling as if they are prepared for the demands of a modern world – to question the world around them, and having developed the skills needed for their next steps in life. We will also ensure our students leave us having experienced a rich, diverse, ambitious and engaging study of literature from across time that will leave students enthusiastic about literature, and lead many students onto further study of English.”

## Student Vision:

As a department, we will ensure that all students feel confident, challenged and supported in equal measure in their study of English. This will be achieved through:

- A reading-focused catch up curriculum in KS3 – Preparing for Excellence in English and Developing Excellence in English
- Writing scaffolds implemented from year 7-11 to provide an increasing independence in high quality academic writing
- ‘Common language’ across all aspects of teaching literature and language
- Cultural capital explicitly built into schemes from Year 7
- A clear system by which students can track their progress and understand how to improve, as signposted through assessment material, roadmaps and knowledge organisers
- The teaching of metacognitive strategies from Year 7 to encourage students to think freely about a range of academic and societal factors

**Exam Board:** AQA

**Assessment Method:** 100% Examination for both Language and Literature. A Spoken Language Endorsement NEA (does not contribute to either grade)

**The Team:**

Adam Sloper – Head of English

[asloper@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:asloper@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Nina Matthews – Second in English

[nmatthews@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:nmatthews@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Lilith Bateman

[lbateman@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:lbateman@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Amie Briffa

[abriffa@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:abriffa@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Jane Cooper

[jcooper@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:jcooper@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Rebecca Gatiss

[rgatiss@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:rgatiss@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Fathma Al-Hamali

[fa-hamali@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:fa-hamali@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Kerrie Jones

[kjones@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:kjones@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Juliet Karambakuwa

[jkarambakuwa@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:jkarambakuwa@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)

Emelia Helliwell – Librarian

[ehelliwell@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:ehelliwell@montsaye.northants.sch.uk)