

English in S3

Over the course of S3, pupils will continue to study the skills of reading, writing, talking and listening.

The skills required for Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation, previously known as Close Reading, will be further developed in S3 both in school and at home using our wealth of resources. We will continue to encourage all students to read for a minimum of 20 minutes each night, and to broaden their range of reading material to cover a variety of genres including fiction, non-fiction, newspaper articles and travel writing.

All pupils will study a variety of literature in class; drama, prose, poetry and media. They will be given differentiated support to write critically on these texts; support which will be gradually reduced as the year goes on to prepare them fully for the challenges of writing critically under exam conditions in National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher exams.

We continue to ensure our young people are effective communicators by developing their listening and talking skills through individual presentations and group discussions. We value group work and cooperative learning for the benefit of all our young people across the curriculum.

Writing skills are also central to the S3 course and, again, vital to ensure our pupils can express their learning across all areas of the school. We focus on developing discursive writing techniques including researching, debating, revising persuasive techniques, alliteration, rule of three, rhetoric, hyperbole, facts/statistics and anecdotes. The pupils also develop their creative writing skills with a focus on effective word choice, imagery, sentence structure, punctuation, narrative stance, theme, characterisation, setting, symbolism, extended motifs, synecdoche, pathetic fallacy, structure - dual narrative/monologue and many more.

For further information, please talk to your English teacher or Mrs Boyle.