



Aylesbury High School | #AHSWalksTall

Developing uniquely talented young adults, who are independent, strong and confident

Dear Parent/Carer,

As students embark on their English Language GCE, we thought it would be useful to share an overview of the course.

In Key Stage 5 English Language:

The examination board for GCE English Language is Edexcel. You can find further information relating to the specification here: [Edexcel English Language specification](#)

- Component 1: Language Variation 35%
- Component 2: Child Language 20%
- Component 3: Investigating Language 25%
- Component 4: Non-examination assessment 20%

We start the course with a transition unit that helps link the skill learnt in GCSE to those required at A Level. The main difference here is the linguistic technical knowledge students need to have to build a framework in which to examine a text. Students learn to see language through different “levels”, such as phonology, morphology, syntax, discourse, pragmatics, etc. Toward the middle of Year 12, we introduce their non-examination assessment, where they are required to produce a 1000-word article in the style of a magazine of their choice. Students have an opportunity to submit a draft version of their comparative NEA response by the end of the second term, with teacher feedback provided by the Summer term, so that the NEA component can be completed by the start of Year 13. The rest of the course is made up of studying the set topics of each specification component, shared between the two classroom teachers that each student will have.

Required resources:

- Folder
- Pens, pencil, highlighters

Useful websites

- [English Media Centre](#)
- [Jstor](#)
- [Lingthusiasm podcasts](#)
- [BBC Word of Mouth podcast](#)

Career Links

- [What Jobs Do People With an English Degree End Up Doing?](#)

Homework and assessment:

Homework of 5 hours per week will be set in English Language to give the students time to consolidate their understanding of work covered at school and further develop their ideas. This may be a mixture

of wider reading and essay responses to help develop their skills and understanding of the texts studied in class. Students will frequently have in class practice tasks, which are then evaluated by the teacher and discussed as a class as part of an ongoing feedback process. Assessment marks are subject to change and are based on the last exam season grade boundaries.

More information can be found on the English subject content page of the school's website.

If you have any queries, please contact Mr Elgin Head of English at melgin@ahs.bucks.sch.uk