



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 10 and 11

Subject: English

Overview

Literature

Across Year 10 and 11, students study a range of classic literature, including poetry, prose and drama texts. Throughout their GCSE course, students develop their understanding of plot, characterisation and themes. Students also explore how writers convey their ideas through their use of language and methods. In addition, they consider the relevant contexts of each text, considering how these influence both reader/audience and writer. Students are also required to respond to unseen poems and therefore they develop the required skills to become critical readers.

Students study the following texts:

- ‘Poetry of Power and Conflict’ an AQA anthology
- Unseen Poetry
- ‘A Christmas Carol’ by Charles Dickens
- ‘An Inspector Calls’ by JB Priestley
- ‘Macbeth’ by William Shakespeare

‘Poetry of Power and Conflict’ an AQA anthology

Students will study one cluster of 15 poems taken from the AQA poetry anthology, ‘Poems Past and Present’. The poems in the cluster are thematically linked and were written between 1789 and the present day. Students will explore the themes of ‘power’ and ‘conflict’ and consider how each poem reflects these themes. They will understand the subject matter of each poem, referring to detail and choosing quotations to support their understanding. Students will explore the ways in which the poets use language and poetic devices and structural methods to convey their ideas about power and conflict. They will also comment on the effect that authorial methods (language and structure) have on the reader. Students will also write about the poets’ contexts, considering the influences on their writing. In addition, they will develop their critical vocabulary and expression, including subject terminology, and compile a vocabulary of connectives and words or phrases to explain ideas, draw links or explore contrasts in their responses.