

# GCSE English Language & Literature

## Year 10

### Unit 1: Context & Meanings: 15 % of final GCSE grade

- Poetry anthology
- Writing Skills: creative & non-fiction
- External GCSE Exam: 1 hr 30 mins: **May 2026**

### Unit 2: Belonging: 10 % of final GCSE grade

- Novel Study: *Boys Don't Cry* by Malorie Blackman
- NEA: Written [coursework]: Essay linked to novel on the theme of Belonging
- Essay: 3 hours planning and preparation, 2 hours writing time. 750-1000 words. **December 2025**
- NEA: Oracy: Individual Presentation exam
- Presentation: 2 hours research and preparation. 4-6 mins performance. Small audience. Video recorded. **October 2025**

### Unit 3: Influence & Power: 10 % of final GCSE grade

- Non-fiction anthology
- NEA: Written [coursework]: Spoken text: creative or non-fiction (speech, script etc.)
- 1 hour preparation and planning, 1 hour 45 mins writing time.
- 400-500 words **April/May 2026**
- NEA: Oracy: Group Discussion exam
- Group discussion: 3 hours preparation and planning; groups of 3; 1 given text from anthology & 1 free choice of text from anthology to discuss. No audience. Video recorded. **June/July 2026**
- **For Oracy exams:** pupils will be withdrawn from their normal lessons to go to a separate room and complete the set task.
- **For written NEAs:** pupils will be in normal classrooms but under exam conditions.

**This is a 2 year course and is worth 2 GCSE grades.**

In Yr 11 there will be 2 external exams, 1 written NEA piece on a Shakespeare play and 1 oracy exam [a paired discussion]

More detail on topics & dates will be given at the end of Yr 11.