Bullers Wood School for Boys

English

Key Stage 3 | Years 7-9

Our aim

To make every boy a confident reader, writer and speaker. Students study a wide range of literature from Year 7 onwards, learning to read closely, write with precision for different purposes and audiences, and argue their ideas aloud. At GCSE, English Language and English Literature build the analytical and expressive skills that underpin success in every other subject.

Every year your son studies a poetry collection, a Shakespeare play and a modern novel, building the reading and writing skills that GCSE English Language and Literature are built on.

- **Analytical writing**
- **Creative & descriptive writing**
- **Transactional writing**
- **Grammar & SPaG**

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Autumn	**Power & Conflict poetry** Poems including The Charge of the Light Brigade and Flag; metaphor, structure and writers' choices.	**Protest poetry** Maya Angelou's Still I Rise, Wordsworth's Upon Westminster Bridge, plus Romantic and contemporary poets.	**Love & Relationships poetry** Sonnets by Wyatt and Shakespeare, alongside Walcott and Duffy.
Spring	**The Tempest** The full play: conflict, love, ideal societies, prejudice, parents and children.	**Rhetoric & speech** Logos, ethos and pathos; speeches by Martin Luther King, Greta Thunberg, Lincoln and Shakespeare.	**Romeo and Juliet** The full play: conflict, violence, masculinity, family and fate.
Summer	**Lord of the Flies** Dystopian society, masculinity, friendship, prejudice and social class.	**The Woman in Black** Gothic conventions, pathetic fallacy, the unreliable narrator and the supernatural.	**Animal Farm** Power, class, capitalism and socialism, cooperation and hypocrisy.

Checking progress

+ Short retrieval quizzes in most lessons
+ An end-of-unit assessment each term
+ End-of-year assessment in the summer

Homework

+ One task a week – usually an Educake quiz – taking about 30 minutes.

Help at home

+ BBC Bitesize KS3 English
+ Educake and Seneca Learning
+ Massolit for extra stretch

Beyond the classroom

Theatre trips, author visits, and creative writing and debate clubs.

Bullers Wood School for Boys

English

Key Stage 4 | Years 10-11

All students take two GCSEs — English Language and English Literature. GCSE Media Studies is also available as an option for students who enjoy analysing and creating media.

GCSE English Literature – AQA

What you study	How it is assessed	
· **Macbeth** — Shakespeare · **A Christmas Carol** — Charles Dickens · **An Inspector Calls** — J.B. Priestley · **Conflict poetry anthology** Skills: interpretation, context, language, form and structure, comparing texts.	**Paper 1:** Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel - 1 hr 45 **Paper 2:** Modern text and poetry · 2 hr 15	**40%** **60%**

GCSE English Language – Eduqas

What you study	How it is assessed	
Reading fiction, non-fiction and literary non-fiction; finding and comparing information; analysing language and structure. Writing with control — description, narrative and viewpoint pieces with accurate spelling and grammar.	**Paper 1:** Fiction reading and creative writing · 1 hr 45 **Paper 2:** Non-fiction reading and viewpoint writing	**50%** **50%**

GCSE Media Studies – Eduqas

What you study	How it is assessed	
How the media shapes the world: advertising, magazines, film marketing, television, music videos, newspapers, radio and video games — plus making your own media product.	**Component 1:** Exploring the media · 1 hr 30 **Component 2:** Media forms and products · 1 hr 30 **Component 3:** Creating a media product (coursework)	**40%** **30%** **30%**

Supporting study at home

Re-read the set texts and learn key quotations; practise timed writing; use BBC Bitesize, Seneca Learning and Massolit for revision.