Subject: English Literature

Key Stage 5 Curriculum Plan

Year: 12/13

Department Information:

The English department at Cox Green School is staffed by seven full-time members of staff, a number of whom have specialist teaching experience of A Level English Literature. All passionate about sharing with students a love literature, special areas of interest include the poetry of John Donne, Shakespeare: from page to stage, the poetry of Christina Rossetti and the works of Oscar Wilde. Whilst we teach the Edexcel specification we are proud that a number of our staff have been examiners for A Level students.

Curriculum aims and intent:

Building on the strong skills developed in KS3 and KS4 English Literature the A Level course challenges our students to think with a breadth and depth about the English canon including such seminal works as William Shakespeare's Othello and Oscar Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Gray. Students examine how Drama, Prose and Poetry all are discrete genres of writing with their own structural expectations and effects Understanding writing as a construct and how the author aims to both entertain and enlighten the audience are central to the curriculum. Students are encouraged to develop their own theses about the meanings of texts, expressing this in rich and sophisticated language that conveys why the texts they study should "hold their own" or justify a place in public discourse and performance as society becomes increasingly dominated by other forms of media..

Assessment:

Formative and summative assessment occurs regularly throughout the year. Students sit timed essays in class in formative stages of learning to become exam ready. There are two sets of Mock exams in Year 12 (December and June) and two sets of Mock exams in Year 13 (November and February). By November of Year 13 students are being examined on all components of the course (Othello, A Streetcar Named Desire, The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Little Stranger, Forward Poems of the Decade and Rossetti). There is an additional moderation process within the department with independent markers.

Resources used to support learning:

Every classroom is networked to the internet and boards are at least partly interactive. There is therefore ample opportunity for teachers to model to students the expectations of A Level writing. Visualisers also model good practise and engagement. Whilst students are expected to purchase their own copies of the texts so they can annotate them closely and develop a comprehensive knowledge of the author's works, the department is fully resourced with secondary sources including a range of critical writings that are especially relevant to the study of Shakespeare and course work but also assist with the understanding

Home Learning:

Students write an essay plan or essay every week alternating between the two topics they will be studying at one time. For example in Year 12 they study Prose at the same time as A Streetcar Named Desire and will alternate in the essays they hand in each week. In Year 13 they will being working consistently on coursework for all of Autumn term along with writing essays for Rossetti. Students will then write essays in rotation for all components of the course - one essay a week.

How parents can help their child:

Speak to your son or daughter about their English lessons and what they have ben learning about. Encourage your child to "teach" you what they are learning in English class - the plot, characters, themes, settings of the texts they study along with the key quotes. To teach another is a powerful way to learn. You can also take them to performances of some of the set texts (class trips will also be organised).

Term	Summary of work being covered	Knowledge, Understanding and skills assessed	How the work is assessed	Career Links
1	Year 12 - Dorian Gray and A Streetcar Named Desire Year 13 - Coursework and Rossetti	Year 12 - Fundamentals of essay writing with a particular focus on thesis writing and writer's craft. Focus on characterisation and setting. Year 13 - Context for Rossetti and refining poetry interpretation. Synthesising material for coursework submission	Live marking and essays set for both year groups. Year 12 December Mocks for Streetcar and Prose Year 13 November Mocks for Drama, Prose and Poetry	Writer, broadcaster, historian, public servant, teacher, lecturer
2	Year 12 - The Little Stranger and A Streetcar Named Desire Year 13 - Coursework and Rossetti	Year 12 - Fundamentals of essay writing with a particular focus on thesis writing and writer's craft. Year 13 - Completing Rossetti poetry anthology and refining essay writing. Adding critics to coursework.	Live marking and essays set for both year groups. Year 13 coursework checkpoints for sections of 3000 word essay completed.	Writer, broadcaster, public servant, historian , teacher, lecturer
3	Year 12 - Prose (Dorian Gray compared with The Little Stranger) and Forward Poems Year 13 - Revision	Year 12 - Developing comparative skills with essay writing for Prose and adding context. Developing poetry analysis skills. Focus on theme and terminology. Year 13 - adding context to revision and writing essay plans and essays.	Live marking and essays set for both year groups. Year 13 in depth feedback for coursework received.	Writer, broadcaster, public servant, historian, teacher, lecturer
4	Year 12 - Forward Poems and Othello Year 13 - Revision	Year 12 - Developing poetry analysis skills. Introduction to the construct of Othello and fundamental themes of the play Year 13 - focusing on critics for all examinable material.	Live marking and essays set for both year groups. Year 13 March Mocks - all components of the exams (Drama, Prose and Poetry)	Writer, broadcaster, public servant, historian, teacher, lecturer
5	Year 12 - Forward Poems with Unseen Poetry and Othello Year 13 Revision	Year 12 - Developing unseen poetry analysis skills and integrating unseen poems with Forward Poems. Analysing the five acts of Othello. Year 13 - focusing on refining exam technique	Live marking and essays set for both year groups.	Writer, broadcaster, public servant, historian, teacher, lecturer
6	Year 12 - Othello and Coursework Year 13 Revision	Year 12 - adding critical analysis to Othello study and developing a synthesised essay response. Mapping out coursework essay plan and developing understanding of the features of texts choses for coursework. Year 13 - timed essas	Year 12 Mocks - Drama, Prose and Forward poetry. Year 12 Questions for coursework decided and coursework plan submitted.	Writer, broadcaster, public servant, historian, teacher, lecturer