

MAKING YOU THE MOST EMPLOYABLE

► GCSE English (16-18)

A GCSE in English will make sure you have a sound grasp of both written and spoken English. Both employers and educational establishments expect you to be able to communicate effectively and favour will always be given to those who can speak confidently and fluently and express their thoughts clearly and convincingly in writing.

What will I learn?

You will learn to write concisely and with clarity and will apply this knowledge to a number of practical writing tasks, such as report and letter writing. This will allow you to increase your command of English and to express yourself more confidently. The study of English will broaden your skills and confidence through studying a variety of different texts, analysing content and developing your own writing style through a number of creative writing exercises. You will study:

Basic English: There are no specific questions on spelling, punctuation and grammar in the examinations, but you will be expected to punctuate and spell correctly, as well as write grammatically correct English.

Speaking and Listening: You are required to complete a presentation, which will be internally assessed.

Reading Comprehension (Components 1 and 2):

For these units, you will be asked questions to assess your understanding and responses to a variety of texts, both 19th and 21st century.

Extended Writing (Components 1 and 2): For these units, you will be required to write according to clear guidelines, for example: writing a letter, article or speech. You will also be required to write a story.

How will I be taught?

You will be taught by English tutors who will endeavour to provide contextualised examples of English to the subject of your main study programme.

Entry Requirements

If you are aged between 16 and 18 years and do not hold a GCSE in English at grade 4 or above, it is a Government requirement that you study GCSE English as part of your study programme.

How will I be assessed?

GCSE English consists of two external examination papers, component 1 (1 hour 45 mins) and component 2 (2 hours), which have set dates, once per year.

What can I do next?

As well as being invaluable for employment opportunities the GCSE English qualification is a common entry requirement to a number of courses at Preston College.