

English

In S3 pupils will continue working on their English and Literacy skills within the framework of their broad general education.

All pupils will work towards the same outcomes throughout the year, but there will be an increased element of pupil choice, in that they will be offered a range of routes towards those outcomes. Between August and Christmas, the department will offer a selection of nine short courses, each lasting for five weeks. This gives pupils a chance to follow their own interests and enthusiasms, as well as exposing them to a variety of teaching styles, and giving them a different group of pupils with which to study in each unit.

After Christmas, pupils will be organised into classes which reflect the level at which they are working. There is scope for movement between classes, based on pupil performance. In these classes they will continue to work on the following key areas:

- Pupils will analyse and use written language in a variety of contexts
- Pupils will analyse and use spoken language in a variety of contexts
- Pupils will extend the scope of their reading in terms of content and complexity
- Pupils will work to improve their understanding of material they read, developing an appreciation of connotation and inference.
- Pupils will develop their evaluative skills by looking at key aspects of texts and learn how to defend their evaluation of texts by using evidence.
- Pupils will develop their skills in writing about their own responses, thoughts and feelings as they relate to personal experience

The focus of third year is to help pupils develop a range of skills in reading, writing, talking and listening, and to develop their understanding of their own strengths and learning preferences so that they are prepared for the start of their National 4 or National 5 courses in fourth year.

Pupils should be aware that their attitude and performance in third year will have a significant impact on the level of study which is available to them in fourth year.