

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to welcome your son/daughter to Year 10 as they continue their journey through the GCSE English programme at Wildern. I'd like to provide you with an overview of the curriculum, our expectations for studying at home and how he/she will be supported through the academic year.

Students will follow the AQA syllabus for English Language and English Literature, which will see them cover a rich variety of topics, contributing to their GCSEs. Students will study Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' and Conflict Poetry, as well as analysing 19th, 20th and 21st century fiction and non-fiction writing. Our rich curriculum in Year 10 continues to prepare your son/daughter with the skills and knowledge required for their GCSEs, and the exam papers themselves.

In the Spring term, we are fortunate to have the Box Clever Touring Theatre Company visiting Wildern to perform 'Macbeth' to enhance our students' learning about Shakespeare's plays in class. This opportunity has been made available at a heavily discounted rate, but we require a £8.50 contribution from all parents in order to finance the production. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will have their ticket funded by the school. If you would like your child to attend please complete the payment online via ParentPay.

If you have not already activated your ParentPay account and require your login details please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at [finance@wildern.org](mailto:finance@wildern.org). Many thanks in advance for your support with this.

To support students in this preparation, we have designed a 'Self-Study' programme that students will complete for homework. All students have been provided with this in the form of a paper booklet, and it will also be uploaded onto their Google Classroom. Your son/daughter will need to spend up to one hour a week on the programme; they will complete their weekly task(s), alongside work directed by their teacher, and self-directed revision they may wish to complete to consolidate their learning in lessons.

We offer year 10 study sessions should your son/daughter require greater support, this can be found every Monday and Tuesday afterschool. Please encourage your son/daughter to take advantage of this if he/she needs the support.

To accompany their studies in class, students in Year 10 are requested to have their own copy of the GCSE text we will be studying this year: Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. This text will be referred to in their lessons this half term until they take their GCSEs in Year 11. As such, it is important that pupils have access to their own copies to aid their self-study over the course of the next three years, enabling them to be able to write notes in the texts. Although we do not stipulate that students must purchase a specific copy of the text, we do ask that students do not purchase an abridged version. We do provide copies of 'Macbeth' free of charge for any students who qualify for Pupil Premium funding; students will be able to collect their copy of the text from the English Department in September.

As the year progresses, you may wish to contact the department with questions or concerns and I would like to encourage you to do so. We take pride in maintaining the communicative link between students, teachers and parents. We are here to support your child in every way we possibly can.

We thank you for your support in encouraging your son/daughter to take advantage of all the opportunities the English department are offering to support students in achieving their full potential.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's English teacher.

Kindest regards,

Miss Mullen

Assistant Director of Learning in English