

**Course Start**

Course Start is independent learning you need to complete as a fundamental part of your introduction to the course. It should take you approximately 5 hours to complete.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Name | **GCSE English Language** |
| **How this Course Start fits into the first term of the course** | * It will provide us with useful information about your GCSE progress so far * The ability to write descriptively and imaginatively underpins Paper 1/ Section B, so practising creative writing is key to success at GCSE |
| **How will my Course Start learning be used in lessons?** | * The questionnaire will enable us to consider your strengths & areas to develop in English this year * It will highlight eligibility for the Nov resit if you are someone with a Grade 3 already in English Language GCSE. * It will inform us whether you have done a Speaking & Listening assessment at school or need to do one at college * The descriptive writing task can also provide a stimulus for Speaking & Listening for those who need to complete this part of the qualification |
| **Course Start learning objectives** | * To reflect and evaluate strengths and areas to develop * To practising creative writing * To proofread and draft |
| **Study Skills** | * Self-reflection * Creative writing * Proofreading for accuracy |

**Expectations for: English Language GCSE**

Our specification is: AQA GCSE | English Language

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **What this course involves:**  This is a fast-track, one-year GCSE English Language course involving wider reading and building on written and spoken skills. There are two main units for this qualification:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **PAPER 1:**  ● A written exam (1 hour/45 minutes)  ● 50% of GCSE/ 80 marks  ● Analysing a literature fiction text and creative, descriptive writing | **PAPER 2:**  ● A written exam (1 hour/45 minutes)  ● 50% of GCSE/ 80 marks  ● Analysis/comparison of 19th-21st Century nonfiction texts and writing to persuade |   **NON-EXAM SPOKEN ASSESSMENT:**  ● Teacher-assessed in the autumn term. *(This mark is carried through from school, if you have already done it.)* |

**ENGLISH COURSE START**

Your name: Date:

Former school/ college:

Grade in GCSE English Language:

Grade in GCSE English Literature *(if you took it)*:

Have you previously had any additional support or exam concessions? If so, give details:

What do you consider your strengths to be in English?

Which areas do you think you need to develop this year?

Which activities do you enjoy doing in English *(e.g. reading, creative writing etc)*?

What are your goals in English at Varndean?

What was the last book you read? *(This could be fiction or nonfiction.)*

Please feel free to add anything else that would be useful for us to know, in order to help you succeed in English this year.

**CREATIVE WRITING**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Write a story about a new beginning**  ***OR***  **Write a description inspired by this picture**   * You could write about a person, place or event. * Write 3 or more paragraphs. * Include a metaphor or simile, and engaging adjectives and verbs. * Check your spelling and punctuation. |  |

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |