



## Higher English

### **What are the recommended entry levels for this course?**

∅ For entry to this course, a National 5 pass is required. However, automatic entry is not guaranteed unless teachers are agreed that a pupil is capable of sustaining both the intellectual rigour and the endeavour that is demanded by Higher.

### **What is included in this course?**

∅ The Higher course provides the opportunity to develop a variety of critical responses to both fiction and non-fiction and to explore the ways in which language works to influence us. Not only is this a valuable grounding for life but it forms an essential qualification for most career paths. You will develop already existing skills in reading and writing to the level required by universities.

### **What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?**

∅ A variety of learning and teaching approaches are used all focussed on enhancing your already existing skills in reading and writing, talking and listening.

### **How will I be assessed?**

#### **Ø Internal Assessment**

Internal Assessment is on a pass/fail basis.

Aspects of Higher English will be internally assessed; this includes assessment of talking and listening.

#### **Ø External Assessment**

The examination in May involves two papers, each an hour and half long:

Paper 1 – a paper composed of comprehension and interpretation questions on two extracts of non-fiction, at least one of which is usually a newspaper article.

Paper 2 – a paper devoted to answering questions based on literature studied over the year. Only two questions must be answered so a pupil may select which texts to answer on. One question must address a Scottish text.

Writing Folios – Pupils must submit two written pieces of different genres. The folio makes up 30% of the overall mark.

### **What are the homework requirements?**

Ø You will be given a number of clear deadlines at the start of the course work, which should be completed at home. This is a rigorous course that will demand regular home study of at least two hours a week.

In addition you should read articles in newspapers written by good journalists and should try to sample different genres such as comic writing, thrillers, novels and poems. Challenge yourself by reading texts that to begin with – you find just that little bit difficult. Talk about our reading and writing!

### **What are the possible progression routes?**

Ø Higher English is required by the majority of university courses. It is also a pre-requisite if you intend to follow Advanced Higher English at school.