

Our Ref: GBE

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

RE: English Curriculum Outlines in Term 1

The English curriculum is one that exposes students to a diverse range of voices and concepts throughout the texts we explore here at The Duston School. Whilst some of these issues may be familiar, we also provide students with exposure to new experiences and perspectives and we firmly believe this supports them with their understanding of society and the world we live in and their ability to show empathy and tolerance towards others, regardless of their background. We pride ourselves on offering this diversity in our curriculum here at The Duston School. We would like to reassure you that we offer clear boundaries for discussion to help tackle these issues in a sensitive and open manner.

Please see below the curriculum content for English in Term 1 for students in both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, and alongside this some of the contentious issues they may encounter during their study of these units.

Year 7 - **Nura and the Immortal Palace** dealing with issues including: exploitation, death, oppression, child labour, poverty, and imprisonment.

Year 8 - **A History of Rhetoric** dealing with issues including: race, gender, conflict, and intolerance.

Year 9 - **The Hate U Give** dealing with issues including: race, discrimination, gender, activism, police brutality, injustice, stereotypes and intolerance.

Year 10 - **A Christmas Carol and GCSE Language Paper 1 (Term 1 and 2)** dealing with issues including: social class, poverty, isolation, and suicide.

Year 11 - **Macbeth and GCSE Language Paper 1 (Term 1 and 2)** dealing with issues including: gender stereotypes, abuse of power, conflict, and suicide.

Should you like to discuss any of the curriculum content further, please do not hesitate to contact your child's English teacher and they will be more than happy to discuss this in more detail.

Yours faithfully,

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