



# The Chantry School



EXCELLENCE IN ALL | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Martley, Worcester, WR6 6QA t: 01886 887100 f: 01886 887102 e: office@chantry.worcs.sch.uk w: www.chantryschool.com

Headteacher: Andrew Dickenson BSc PhD

Company No: 07657852

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Dear Parent/Carer

As you know, your child is approaching their end of Year 10 exams and will have been issued with their exam timetable. In English, pupils in Year 10 will sit two papers: one for English Language (Paper 1) and one for English Literature (Paper 1). Each paper lasts for 1 hour and 45 minutes and pupils are very familiar with the format and requirements of each.

We always encourage pupils to participate fully and actively during their scheduled English lessons. However, the demands of the new GCSEs in English are high and we cannot emphasise enough the additional need for thorough preparation beyond the classroom, too.

For the Literature paper, your child will need to thoroughly revise "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. They have been provided with resources, strategies and approaches to support them during their English lessons. There is no substitute for knowing a set text very well and they have also been advised to take the opportunity to re-read the whole text. There will also be a question on a Shakespeare play, which they are currently studying and will have completed by the time the exam takes place.

Year 10 pupils completed two English Language (1) Papers at the beginning of Year 10 and should be using these to remind themselves of what this paper requires. They have a formatively marked paper and a summative mark for another paper, along with model answers and mark schemes/clear success criteria to support their revision. It is a good idea for pupils to store their past papers and previously completed responses, in addition to new revision materials, in an A4 ring binder. Most have organised themselves to do this by now. This will prove to be a very valuable resource throughout Year 11, too.

Pearson, CPG and Cambridge University Press all publish AQA approved revision guides which are well-suited to pupils' needs and we strongly recommend their use to assist pupils in being fully prepared. They are available in bookshops such as Waterstones, W H Smith and also on Amazon. A specimen paper for each subject is publicly available via the exam board website ([www.aqa.org](http://www.aqa.org))

As always, English teachers are on hand to support your child through this process. Please encourage them to make use of the support available to them. If you have any questions regarding the end of Year 10 English exams, please do not hesitate to ask.

We wish your child every success in the forthcoming exams.

Yours sincerely

Ms Angela Bates  
Head of English