ENGLISH: new GCSE specification - a guide for PARENTS and CARERS

English LANGUAGE							
PAPER 1: Literary	FICTION - 07/06/17	PAPER 2: Literary NON-FICTION - 12/06/17					
Section A	Section B	Section A	Section B				
READING	WRITING	READING	WRITING				
Unseen Text: 19th-21st Century		Unseen Text: 19th-21st Century					
40 marks (25%)	40 marks (25%)	40 marks (25%)	40 marks (25%)				
4 questions: analysis of previously unseen extract	1 fiction writing task: content and organisation (24); technical accuracy (18)	4 questions based on two unseen extracts: analysis and comparison skills	1 non-fiction writing task: content and organisation (24); technical accuracy (18)				
Preparing for success: INDEPENDENT weekly study tips	FICTION: the scope of the unseen text is very wide. You can prepare by reading frequently and reading <i>well</i> - a variety of genres, eras, and writing styles. We will happily provide you a list of suggestions. NON-FICTION: make reading good quality newspapers (eg The Guardian, The Times), or magazines such as National Geographic, part of your routine. Take steps, through good quality reading and use of dictionaries and thesauruses, to improve your vocabulary. If you struggle with the meanings of words in your exams, you cannot look them up.						

English LITERATURE							
PAPER 1 EXAM: 22/05/17		PAPER 2 EXAM: 26/05/17					
Section A	Section B	Section A	Section B	Section C			
Shakespeare	19th Century Novel	Modern Prose or Drama	Poetry (anthology)	Poetry (unseen)			
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30 + 4 marks [SPAG] (21.3%)	30 marks (18.7%)	30 + 4 marks [SPAG] (21.3%)	30 marks (18.7%)	32 marks (20%)			
One question: extract-based; character/theme	One question: extract-based; character/theme	One question from choice of two: character/ theme	One question comparison: named poem and one other	Two questions: analysis (24) plus comparison (8)			
Preparing for success: INDEPENDENT weekly study tips	These are ALL 'closed-book' exams - you cannot take a copy of the texts in with you, even an unannotated one. Your success will be greatly affected by your familiarity with the texts. Knowing the story will not be enough - you need to have a selection of key quotations in your memory. Use any available time to memorise quotations, and plan how you would respond to a question about a particular character or theme.						