



# **COMBERTON ACADEMY TRUST COURSE INFORMATION**

Course Title	GCSE English
Course Description	This course aims to develop learners' skills and fluency in the inter-related disciplines of reading, writing and speaking and listening. Over the duration of the course, we will study a range of modern non-fiction texts and nineteenth century fiction text extracts. In studying these texts, learners will learn to identify the techniques used by a variety of writers to achieve a range of purposes including- to inform, explain, argue; persuade and advise as well as to imagine, explore, entertain and describe. Learner will go on to use this knowledge to develop their own writing skills so that they can consciously craft written texts, both non-fiction texts and imaginative, creative pieces.  In addition to the two written exam papers, learners will also undertake a spoken endorsement element which involves one spoken presentation to the group. The spoken endorsement element is a compulsory requirement of the course of study. It will appear on all candidates' certificates as a separately reported grade, alongside the overall grade issued.  The proposed specification is the Edexcel 9 - 1 English Language GCSE (1EN0).  PLEASE NOTE: As with all new-style GCSEs, grades A*- U have been replaced with levels 9 - 1. To be considered to have gained a "good pass" you will need to achieve a level 5.  The assessment structure for this course is as follows:  Paper 1 (Fiction and Imaginative Writing- 40% of total mark).  Thour 45minute written exam  Candidates will answer four questions on one nineteenth century fiction passage. Candidates will then choose one of two imaginative writing tasks to complete which will be linked by theme to the nineteenth century fiction extract.  Paper 2 (Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing- 60% of total mark).  Paper 2 (Non-Fiction texts, including two questions requiring comparison and contrast. Candidates will then choose one of two transactional writing task to complete which will be linked by theme to the non-fiction texts on the paper.

	Spoken endorsement. (Does not count towards the GCSE but is a compulsory requirement of the course of study). Candidates will give a formal spoken presentation for a maximum of 10 minutes including a discussion, answering questions arising from their presentation.  N.B. There is only one level of entry for this qualification and it is possible for candidates to achieve a level 9 (equivalent to an old A* grade) in the exams they will be sitting.				
Start Date	12 Sept 2016	Day & Time	Monday 7.15-9.15pm	Venue	Cambourne Village College
Tutor Details	Sarah Holmes qualified as a Secondary School level English teacher in 2001 and worked at The Meridian School in Royston Hertfordshire until December 2008. She was Second in Charge of the English department at Meridian and had particular responsibility for post-16 English provision including GCSE resits along with AS/A-Level English Literature and Language and Literature.  Sarah is now the Head of English at PBD, a company which offers apprenticeships in Early Years Education. She manages the team of English tutors and has designed and developed the online GCSE English Language course offered by PBD, creating the online resources to meet the requirements of the Edexcel GCSE English specification.				
No. of wks	30	Terms			3
Fee	FREE	Concess	sionary Fee		FREE
Course Level:	Mixed ability Level 1, Level 2 (equiv. to GCSE / NVQ2) Level 3 Equivalent GCE A Level				<b>✓</b>

# Skills or qualifications needed for entry into the class

To have completed the online diagnostic pre-test, testing reading, writing and basic literacy skills to a satisfactory level.

# Course aims & objectives

By the end of the course, and with the help of hard work and commitment, learners should be in a strong position to achieve a level 5 or higher in the final examinations.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches will be used including online digital learning materials such as quizzes, video tutorials etc., as well as traditional paper-based methods such as text annotation. Learners will be involved in various group activities from whole class to paired work and will have the opportunity to contribute by way of discussions and presentations.

In addition to the work covered in class, there will be online private study work set each week which will need to be completed before the next taught session.

#### **Progression – after this course what might you do next?**

A GCSE Level 5 or higher will open up a variety of job and training opportunities for successful learners.

# How progress & success will be recorded

A variety of assessments methods will be used including online activities that provide personalised feedback and progress targets together with essays and mock-exam tasks.

Each learner will have their progress and success monitored and recorded on a regular basis using the above modes of assessment.

## Additional course costs (e.g. visits, materials, books, equipment)

- An A4 folder, A4 pad of paper, pens, pencils and a set of highlighters.
- Learners will need access to either a PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone.
- Access to a dictionary and/or thesaurus would be an advantage.

Materials/equipment required for first class	A4 pad of lined paper, pens and highlighters.
Contact for further information	Community Education: 01223 264721 <a href="mailto:commed@combertonvc.org">commed@combertonvc.org</a>

### **Equalities statement**

We are fully committed to equality of opportunity and welcome enrolments from everyone. We positively encourage all learners with any concerns about specific needs which might affect their learning to discuss their requirements with us in confidence. We believe that everyone is entitled to learn in an environment that is free from discriminatory behaviour so that we build a community based on mutual trust and respect.

We will ensure that resources and equipment are accessible to all and make reasonable adjustments to ensure that all learners can access activities

### **Enrolment and payment**

Please enrol at Comberton Village College for all courses, including those in Cambourne and Melbourn. Fees can be paid by cheque, cash or debit card. Payments are not processed until classes are viable but please assume the class is running once payment has been sent, unless you hear to the contrary. Please send an SAE or email contact for confirmation or a receipt.

By Post: Adult Education, Comberton Village College, Comberton, Cambridge, CB23 7DU. Cheques payable to: Comberton Village College.

In Person Please bring payment to the college reception.

9.00-4.45 pm Mon-Thurs & 7.00-9.30 pm Mon and Weds, term time only.

Summer Holiday: we pick up messages each week and return calls and emails. We are closed in other school holidays.

By Phone 01223 264721 and pay by debit card.

**Refunds** are only available if we close a class or you withdraw at least two weeks before the start. In the latter case there is a £5 administrative charge. Classes cancelled by us due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. tutor illness or college closure due to heavy snow) will be replaced with an extra class at the end.

**Concessionary Fees** (25% discount) are available if you receive a means-tested benefit (evidence to be provided). It is also possible to pay by instalments and this method of payment is available even if you do not qualify for a concessionary fee. Please ask for details.

### **Safeguarding Statement**

Arrangements have been made to make sure that you are safe in our centres. If you feel you are not safe for any reason, for example through verbal or physical abuse or you have been discriminated against, please tell your tutor or the centre manager, who will investigate to ensure your safety.