



15 July 2025

Dear Families

GCSE English Literature Set Texts

We are writing to you concerning the English Literature examination course that your child will begin following in year 10, and in particular about the set texts that students will study for the exam. At the end of year 11, your child will be taking literature exams, part of which will examine their knowledge and understanding of several different texts. To prepare for the exam, students will need to purchase a copy of each text over the next two school years. To ensure that you are informed and prepared we are sending you the list of the texts that will be required now. You may wish to purchase all of the texts now, or as each is required. You should already have purchased a copy of A Christmas Carol as part of students' year 9 introduction to GCSE study earlier this term.

The text that students will be studying immediately in September is ***Lord of the Flies by William Golding***.

The English department at Sackville is following the AQA syllabus which requires students to have a detailed and thorough understanding of several texts. Students will not receive a copy of these books in the exam so it is important for them to make the best use of them during their study and revision. With their own copy, students may use highlighter pens, underline and write notes in the margin, all of which prove extremely helpful in aiding understanding and analysis. As you can appreciate, once a copy has been marked in this way it cannot be used by another student. Consequently, we are asking you to purchase the texts that your child is studying.

A list of the texts, the particular editions that we would prefer and the recommended retail price for each text follows. **Lord of the Flies** is the text in bold as the one that should be purchased now. Texts are available from sites like Amazon or your local bookshop will also be able to order for you. Copy and pasting the ISBN number into the site will take you directly to the correct book.

Texts can often be found for less than the recommended retail price. **Second hand copies are also widely available and perfectly acceptable.** We keep a small stock of second hand, previously annotated copies at school on a first-come-first-served basis in case of need.

Some students like to have a study guide to accompany their learning of the text. If you feel this would be beneficial for your child, a range of suitable study guides for AQA can be found on the CGP website [here](#).

Please ensure students also have their own copy of ***Lord of the Flies*** as soon as possible, at the latest by **Thursday 04 September 2025**. We strongly recommend that students **read the novel over the summer** to prepare themselves for GCSE and to enable students to begin effective study as soon as possible.

We thank you for your support with your child's English Literature GCSE. If you have any further queries, please contact either myself (Irogers@sackvilleschool.org.uk) or the Curriculum Leader of English, Mrs J Grimes (jgrimes@sackvilleschool.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Rogers
Leader of KS4 English

Text	ISBN / Edition	RRP	Notes
A Christmas Carol Charles Dickens	Scholastic Classic Edition ISBN: 978-1407143644	£5.99	<i>STUDENTS SHOULD ALREADY HAVE A COPY OF THIS FROM Y9 STUDY</i>
Lord of the Flies William Golding	Faber and Faber edition ISBN: 978-0571191475	£9.99	Please obtain a copy of Lord of the Flies before September.
Macbeth William Shakespeare	Oxford School Shakespeare Edition ISBN: 978-0-19-832400-3	£6.99	<i>To be studied in year 11</i>