

The English department at Bolton Islamic Girls School is a successful, committed and creative team who collaborate on all aspects of teaching and learning. We are innovative, hardworking and supportive with a great track record and the determination to always strive for new ways to help our students succeed.

Curriculum Intent for English

The English Curriculum at Bolton Islamic Girls School has been designed to spark students' interests and creativity, whilst also providing them with a solid basis of preparation to meet the rigours of Key Stage 5 and beyond. This will help to develop the Islamic personality of all students in order to produce confident, articulate and role model British Muslim citizens. Our ethos is to **believe, achieve** and you will **succeed. Respect is at the heart of everything we do.** Respect for a culture of lifelong learning and its power to transform lives is our secret for success.

We aim to challenge students, promote valid and respectful discussion and debate, as well as introduce learners to a wide range of different texts and genres. The overarching intention is to equip students with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. The importance of reading is further inspired by our Islamic belief, whereby "Read" was the first word revealed to our Beloved Prophet Muhammed (SAW, peace be upon him).

Our aims are to ensure that all pupils:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage

- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

With the high-quality education in English we aim to provide, we will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Within different units, students will gain the opportunity to develop a wide variety of skills. These will include analysing language and its impact on the audience/ reader; discussing how structure within a text is used for effect and how context helps to impact writers and their work.

Students will also study a wide range of non-fiction texts including newspaper articles and speeches, and learn how to use language and structure to argue their own point of view successfully.

There are also literacy lessons, focussing on spelling, punctuation and grammar, and library lessons focussing on independent reading embedded throughout the year. Through reading in particular, pupils will have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually.

Students will also have opportunities to write creatively, both within the texts and genres they are studying and beyond. Through this work students will also learn subject-specific vocabulary to be employed within their own writing, as well as how to structure their work successfully and with flair.

Implementation – (See Curriculum Map)

We are a determined, creative and knowledgeable team of subject specialists who collaborate to produce and deliver thoughtfully sequenced lessons through our bespoke schemes of learning. Carefully planned learning episodes are designed to address pace, acceleration and challenge to foster a productive and meaningful learning environment. We track progress and check knowledge retention and recall through carefully considered learning episodes and

appropriate assessments followed by purposeful reflection work. To create independent learners, we set stimulating homework. These are routinely reviewed in response to staff and student feedback to ensure that we are delivering robust and exciting work that generates a strong web of knowledge and skills.

Impact

We can see and measure the effect of the English Curriculum at Bolton Islamic Girls School through a range of profoundly important strategies delivered routinely in our lessons. These include reflection work, green and purple pen feedback, regular writing challenges, and end of unit tests as well as end of term assessments. Our students learn how to recognise strengths as well as what is required to make progress. Through our relentless determination to improve the quality of education in the English department, we expect every student to achieve and enjoy their experiences with us.

The impact of our work on the progress and attainment of students can be clearly seen in the progress of students. In Year 7 and 8, this is through internal assessments. In Years 9, 10 and 11, this is through PPEs. Our direct impact is seen through the GCSE grades for English Language and Literature, which have been significantly above national averages over the last few years.

Ultimately, our curriculum helps improve the reading and writing skills of learners along with their listening and speaking skills, so they can confidently utilise those skills in their later academic and professional careers. As productive members of British society, these students understand how specialists in English think and know how to further access expertise for expanding their knowledge in the field of English Language and Literature. This knowledge in turn helps them benefit the wider community as constructive individuals and successful professionals.

Careers that may interest learners if they particularly enjoy English and choose to study English at university are listed below:

- [Digital copywriter](#)
- [Editorial assistant](#)
- [English as a foreign language teacher](#)
- [Lexicographer](#)
- [Magazine journalist](#)
- [Newspaper journalist](#)

- [Private tutor](#)
- [Publishing copy-editor/proofreader](#)
- [Secondary school teacher](#)
- [Web content manager](#)
- [Writer](#)

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

- [Academic librarian](#)
- [Advertising copywriter](#)
- [Archivist](#)
- [Arts administrator](#)
- [Education consultant](#)
- [Information officer](#)
- [Learning mentor](#)
- [Marketing executive](#)
- [Media researcher](#)
- [PPC specialist](#)
- [Primary school teacher](#)
- [Public relations officer](#)
- [Records manager](#)
- [Social media manager](#)

Famous Names with English Majors:

- Former MTV CEO Judy McGrath received an English degree at Cedar Crest College.
- Former Xerox CEO Anne Mulcahy was an English and journalism major at Marymount College.
- Award-winning film director Steven Spielberg was an English major at California State University, Long Beach.
- Barbara Walters a renowned host was an English Major at Sarah Lawrence College.
- Former Avon CEO Andrea Jung was an English literature major at Princeton University.

Famous female writers:

- J.K Rowling, author of “Harry Potter”. Her creative writing skills led to her great fame and fortune.
- Fatima Mernissi a Moroccan Muslim author, writer of “Dreams of Trespass”. Fatima won recognition in literary circles through her original writing style.