

13th November 2017

Dear Parent/Carers

Here at Denton Community College we do everything we can to ensure that every child succeeds. We also realise that a strong partnership between home and school is essential if we are to support the students in the best way we can.

In order for you to feel confident in supporting your child in the most effective way, the English department have put together some essential information about the way we teach English at our college.

Independent Study/Homework

Due to the changes to English exams, it is more important than ever that students are able to work independently. Your encouragement and support in ensuring homework is completed is greatly appreciated.

This term **year 9** students have a homework booklet. They should be completing one task from these every week for a specified day so they can be reviewed in class.

In **year 10** students have a booklet of 6 GCSE-style questions. They should spend 45 minutes per week completing one of the tasks to the best of their ability. The completed tasks will be collected by a teacher in the week beginning 18th December and any missing tasks will have to be completed in NuHopes that week. In addition, we also encourage students to be completing some independent revision of quotations. Currently, they have notes and quotations on six poems, which will shortly be followed by quotations from 'An Inspector Calls'. We advise a 'little and often' approach so that students feel able to manage their workload and, by starting now, we hope to embed their knowledge of the texts to prevent students from feeling overwhelmed by the amount of revision in the run-up to exams next year.

Parental Drop-in

The last few years have seen some dramatic changes to the exam system. Understandably, parents and carers often tell us that they are finding these changes confusing. In order to help make everything clearer, we invite you to join us in school on **Wednesday 29th November between 5:30pm - 7:30pm**. You do not need to book a time slot. Staff from the department will be on hand to talk you through some of our teaching strategies and how you can best support your child at home. Refreshments and parent handbooks will be available and we look forward to answering your questions. If you would like to attend, please return the slip below to the year 7 staff room.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either of us on 0161 336 2219.

Yours sincerely
The English Team

Miss S.Wright (Head of English)
Ms J. Lamb (KS4 Lead Teacher)
Mrs B. Marshall (KS3 Led Teacher)

Please return this slip to year 7 homebase.

Parents/ Carers of _____
would like to attend the parental drop- in session on Wednesday 29th November 2017.