



17 December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Amendments to GCSE English Literature**

As you will be aware, OFQUAL and the Examination Boards have proposed amendments for GCSE subjects to help schools and students prepare for the 2022 GCSE examinations. Further information regarding these amendments will be released in February 2022 but an amendment for GCSE English Literature has already been confirmed, which is a removal of one of the texts that current Year 11 students will be required to study.

As a department, we have decided to remove the requirement to study 'An Inspector Calls' for the 2022 GCSE examination series. There are a number of reasons behind our decision to remove this text.

1. 'An Inspector Calls' does not include an extract in the exam as other studied texts do. Therefore, there is limited support for students in the exam and they are expected to remember the entire text, the plot, characters and themes alongside quotes. This is difficult at the best of times, let alone after a disrupted Year 9 and Year 10 due to COVID and we want to support our students as best we can.
2. It is **compulsory** for students to be examined on 'Macbeth' and unseen poetry as part of GCSE English Literature. Therefore, we have decided to keep studying the poems from the Anthology as it will support students in their learning and preparation of this alongside their approach to the unseen poetry section of the examination.
3. 'An Inspector Calls' was studied in lockdown during Year 10 when learning moved online. Engagement across the Year group was variable meaning that we would need to re-teach much of this text which would impact on the teaching and learning time for the remainder of Year 11. This would negate the advantage of being able to remove a text from the course.

Students are no longer required to study or revise 'An Inspector Calls' as they prepare for their February trial exams and the English Literature examination in the Summer.

If you have any questions regarding this or indeed anything relating to GCSE English Language or Literature, please do not hesitate to email me on [Ajohnson@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:Ajohnson@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk)

Many thanks for your continued support.

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