

YEAR 10 & 11 ENGLISH in 2019

February 2019

Dear Parent / Caregiver,

Students currently in Year 10 and 11 are the first two cohorts to complete the new Queensland Certificate of Education, beginning in Queensland with students entering Year 11 in 2019.

The new systems include:

- a model that uses school-based assessment and external assessment
- processes that strengthen the quality and comparability of school-based assessment
- introducing the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

The change to an education system which features external assessment is a significant shift in the way teaching and learning will be conducted in Queensland. Students will be required to complete unseen external assessment tests for every general subject at the end of Year 12, similar to the VCE and HSC systems in Victoria and New South Wales.

To prepare students for this transition, Benowa State High School's Year 10 and Year 11 English curriculum has been rewritten from the ground up to align to the 2019 English syllabuses. Some information about this can be found overleaf.

To develop the required working habits for our new senior system, students and teachers will need to work differently. A greater focus on student independence and resilience will be evident within English curriculum units in 2019. Explicit teaching of reading, writing and textual analysis will remain the core of this curriculum.

Year 10 & 11 English 2019 Parent-Teacher Information Session

To explain changes to curriculum and the expectations of Year 10 and 11 English students in 2019, the English department will be holding a Parent-Teacher Information Session. This will also serve as an opportunity for you to meet some of the English teaching team. Please note that this session relates to Australian Curriculum/QCAA English, not IB or Preparatory English.

Information that will be covered in the session includes:

- key differences between the different types of Year 11 English subjects, and between Year 10 English A and B
- the marking system and the transition to numerical marking
- assessment policies (including drafting)
- 'extra credit' tasks
- examples of unit content and assessment – what we're currently working on
- examinations
- study habits that can help students throughout the year

DATE: Tuesday 26th February (Term 1, Week 5)
TIME: 5:30-6:30pm
VENUE: Benowa State High School – Theatre (K03)

We encourage you to attend this information session. As we work in partnership with you to ensure your child's best possible education, we look forward to meeting you and explaining these important changes. If you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Matt Pickersgill – Head of Department – English at mpick41@eq.edu.au or (07) 55827333.

Kind regards,

Matt Pickersgill
Head of Department – English

Mark Rickard
Executive Principal

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Year 10 English

To prepare for the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) in 2020, Year 10 English has changed.

Standard Year 10 English is called **Year 10 English A**. This course will prepare students for Year 11 General English, Essential English or English as an Additional Language.

If students achieved a B or higher in Year 9 English for their overall result at the end of Semester 2, they have been automatically placed in **Year 10 English B**. This course will prepare students for Year 11 General English or Literature. *It assesses the same skills as Year 10 English A and is marked to the same standard, but features more conceptual thinking and more challenging texts.*

Both courses align to Year 10 Australian Curriculum. Year 10 English A and English B are not electives. Students will be placed into these courses based on their results in Year 9.

Year 11 English

From **Year 11 2019**, the following English courses will be offered:

SUBJECT	TYPE	External Assessment?	Prerequisites	Focus
Essential English	Applied	Common Internal Assessment	Nil	Study of language and texts in society; focus on everyday application of language skills
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	General	Yes	C in Year 10 English A or B	Study of language, texts and literature with conditions and texts catering for students with English as their second language
General English	General	Yes	C in Year 10 English A or B	Study of language, texts and literature
Literature	General	Yes	A in Year 10 English A <i>or</i> B in Year 10 English B <i>or</i> C in Year 10 English A or B plus B-standard 'extra credit' entry tasks completed	Study of literary texts at a deeper level – focus on wider reading
English & Literature Extension	General <u>Year 12 Subject Only</u>	Yes	By invitation only Application must be submitted Minimum result of 85/100 for Year 11 English or Literature (equivalent of a B+ or higher)	Theorised study of literature using contemporary literary theory Must be studied <u>in addition to</u> English or Literature

All English subjects can be used for ATAR calculation if they are completed in Year 12. (Essential English will contribute to ATAR if it is the only Applied subject a student studies). If students pass (equivalent of C-standard), all English subjects can gain credits for QCE. Prerequisites for university courses will vary depending on the course and university.

To achieve a QCE, students must pass English (no matter what type). Due to this, continued enrolment in an English subject requires a passing grade in Years 11 and 12. Students will be moved to Essential English to assist in achieving a passing grade if they have failed a semester in a more complex English course.

Progression between subjects requires prerequisite results to be met (see table above)

