**What the children are expected to do for the exams.**

In Form 6 all revision is done in school. The class teacher will use the days and weeks that lead up to the exam to gently prepare the children for their first foray into the world of timed extended writing. We keep this process as low key as possible on purpose.

**What you can do at home, if you wish.**

English exams are said to be notoriously hard to revise for because there are no right or wrong answers. To an extent, this is true; if you are looking to revise at a desk in the standard fashion. However, engaging in conversations with your child about books, characters, authors’ styles of writing and anything that engages you with reading, will benefit your child and encourage a love of reading in them too.

To support comprehension, you can use the ‘5 Ws’; who, what, where, why and when. ‘Why’ is particularly useful for developing comprehension. Questions such as; ‘what do you think they mean by that?’, can help support a child’s inferential comprehension.

Do have a look at the ‘Hints and Tips’ page on the school website for more ideas.

**Form 6**

In Form 6 the children will sit two English papers. These papers are written and moderated by the English department and reviewed each year.

**Paper 1** (1 hour) is a reading comprehension, which involves reading a short passage and then answering some questions. This part of the exam is used to ascertain the child’s direct understanding of what they have read and their ability to infer information about the passage.

**Paper 2** (1 hour) is a creative writing task. The children will be offered a range of stimuli (an image, a sentence, a topic etc) and are expected to write a story using one of these to help them frame their ideas. We use this paper to assess how well they able to structure and plan their work (use of paragraphs/ grammar etc), their use of language and range of vocabulary, how well they express themselves with clarity, and their use of descriptive language and devices (similes, metaphors etc).

Form 6 Autumn English Exams

**A note on alternative exam provision.**

‘Alternative exam provision’ refers to the range of support strategies available to children who qualify for them. They include; extra time; reader; scribe and use of a computer, amongst other things.

As a rule, there are generally no alternative exam provisions made for any child in Form 6. There are some exceptions to this and the Learning Support Department will be in touch with parents where this is the case.

The Form 6 English exams have been written in such a way as to make them very accessible. Marks will not be lost for spelling or grammar and it is unlikely that any child will run out of time; an hour for what is expected is generous and we find the children manage very well.