



The Priory School

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

When we return from half-term, your child will be embarking on their GCSE English Literature course, which will begin with an initial study of the first half of Meera Syal's *Anita and Me*. In preparation for this, and the AQA Literature course overall, we ask that all students purchase the following set texts, which you will find listed below. By purchasing their own copy of the text, it will enable students to make crucial annotations and notes which will follow them through the course, and help to prepare them for what is ultimately a series of 'closed book' examinations for GCSE English Literature:

***Anita and Me** by Meera Syal (suggested edition: Flamingo Press). Please note that we will be asking students to complete their reading of the novel over the summer, ready to begin full GCSE study in September. This is an important, if not crucial, task that we ask of students but we have created an 'Abridged Guide' to help support those who might find the reading to be a challenge. I would also recommend the audiobook version that is available online.

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens (suggested edition: CGP 'The Complete Novel with Annotations and Knowledge Organisers')

Macbeth by William Shakespeare: (suggested edition: GCSE Macbeth complete play with notes – CGP)

The editions above are only recommendations and any version of the text will suffice. Should your child have an older sibling who has previously studied the texts, passing those texts down is encouraged and a perfectly reasonable approach. Likewise, should your child be entitled to support from student support via Pupil Premium, your child's English teacher will ensure that they receive a copy of the text in good time.

I have also listed some recommended revision guides. However, there is no pressure to purchase revision guides these during Year 9 – many parents and carers choose to wait until Year 10 to see whether a revision guide is an essential tool for their child, and many decide that revision guides are not necessary, given the wealth of materials available online:

GCSE English Text Guide 'A Christmas Carol'

CGP 'Anita and Me' Revision Guide

CGP 'Love and Relationships' Anthology Poetry Guide

These texts and guides, should you feel your child will make good use of them, are all available from the school shop at a reduced price and can be ordered by filling in an order form via the school website.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's English teacher if you require any further clarification regarding the above, and we are very much looking forward to a positive and settled start to the GCSE course this year. I'd like to thank you for your support of the department this year and for encouraging the reading of *Anita and Me*.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Stacey

Head of English