

Ref: 118/18

31<sup>st</sup> October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to GCSE English at St Margaret's!

We have begun your son's GCSE journey in English, and, half a term in, we would like to make you aware of a key way in which you can support him to ensure that he achieves his full potential over the next two years.

We believe that students should have the opportunity to annotate their own copies of the set texts. Annotation is best practice, allowing students to make notes next to parts of the texts they may have struggled to understand; to highlight key quotations and to track themes and motifs. However, we can only allow students to annotate a text if they have their own personal copy. We would like to give you the opportunity to purchase copies of the texts at the cheapest possible price so that your son can make notes in them. There are three options for you to consider:

**Option A:** Purchase copies of the texts through school. We are able to bulk-buy texts and so can purchase them at a discounted rate. This is the most convenient and the cheapest way to buy and will be available at £7.75 for both books.

**Option B:** Purchase copies of the texts yourself. The editions we use are:  
Oxford School Shakespeare: *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (RRP: £6.99) ISBN: 978-0198324003  
Scholastic Classics: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens (RRP: £4.99) ISBN: 9781407143644

**Option C:** Do not purchase the texts. The school will provide copies of the text for students who choose this option. However, they will not be allowed to write in them or mark them in any way. The texts must be returned as a clean copy at the end of year 11.

In line with our Charging Policy, any students in receipt of Pupil Premium funding will not be required to pay for texts ordered through school. They will receive texts as through Option A and can annotate them.

Please return the attached form indicating your choice. Please also accept our thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Siobhan Bell  
Head of English.

**REPLY SLIP TO: Mrs Bell – GCSE Books**

**PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

English Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which of following options you have chosen:

- I have chosen option A and would like to purchase copies of the texts through school. I am ordering *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare and *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. The total cost is £7.75 and I will pay via ParentMail +Pay. In line with our Charging Policy, pupils for whom we receive Pupil Premium funding (eg. those entitled, or previously entitled, to Free School Meals) will not be required to pay for the texts that they order through school. They will automatically be provided with the texts at no cost.
- I have chosen option B and will purchase copies of the texts myself. If you choose to do this, please do so as soon as possible so that your son has the texts ready for study in class.
- I have chosen option C and do not wish to purchase the texts. I am aware that my son will not be able make any notes in the texts that the school loans and that the texts must be returned by May 2020.

Payment to be made via ParentMail +Pay only.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Carer)      Date: \_\_\_\_\_