



# ENGLISH

The English classroom at Aquinas Catholic College is one where students are encouraged to become active learners, confident and engaging communicators, and critical and imaginative thinkers.

Our lessons are interactive and dynamic, tailored to meet the wide range of students' interests and needs. Smartboards, video cameras, internet resources, collaboration tools and iPads are used in conjunction with more 'traditional' teaching methods to provide a well-rounded curriculum.

During Years 7 and 8, students study fiction, poetry, film, nonfiction and drama in close studies as a class, and wide reading formats which allow choice and variety. They compose spoken, print and visual texts, media and multimedia, utilising new skills in their exploration of existing works, both collaboratively and independently.

Topics centred on a key concept, such as 'Communication', 'Oppression' or 'Expressing Emotion' help students understand texts on personal, national and global levels. Opportunities to view live performances both at school and at outside venues also extend the student experience beyond the classroom.

All English units are differentiated to meet the needs of different learning styles and abilities. At Stage 4 level, gifted English students are catered for within the Challenge Class, and mainstream classes in conjunction with the Gifted and Talented Program conducted through the Learning Centre. At Stage 5 level, a selective English class provides a challenging environment to further develop knowledge and skill.

Aquinas Catholic College students have a healthy sense of competition and this is encouraged in Debating and Public Speaking competitions as well as a number of external English competitions. Debating classes are held after school hours, during the debating season, and public speakers have individual teacher mentors.

In short, English at Aquinas Catholic College promotes student engagement, inspiration, imagination and communication.



*Enlivened by the Spirit*

• WHOLENESS • HOPE • JUSTICE • REVELATION •