

A Level English Literature



"Literature is not just good for the soul, it has been a powerful weapon for hundreds of years. It sharpens your mind and offers a deeper perspective, a chance to reflect on humanity in a world that is often too shallow."

Walt Whitman

English Literature at A-Level will expose you to a wide range of texts from different historical periods from Shakespeare, to Blake, to Hosseini. In Year 12, you will study texts through the lens of tragedy. In the second year of the course, the texts will be examined as expressions of social and political protest. The NEA essays give you the opportunity to examine a novel and a collection of poetry of your choice from a number of critical perspectives, including from a feminist, Marxist, and eco-critical perspective.

How you will be assessed:

Exam (80%) and Non-Examined Assessment (20%)

Two exams:

- Aspects of Tragedy
- Social and Political Protest Writing

Non-examined Assessment:

Theory and Independence. Two essays of 1500 words.

What you need to be successful:

To be successful in English Literature, you should have a passion for reading and be able to read critically and independently. You should also have confidence in your essay writing skills. You should be self-motivated and happy to engage in conversation and debate. Students with a GCSE grade 5 or above in English Language and Literature will be suitable for this course.

What our students say:

"I like how we have freedom with analysing texts in comparison to GCSE, where we were given more specific guidance on what to write"

Eve Sellers

"I like being exposed to different texts that I wouldn't normally go for!"

Charlotte Pearson



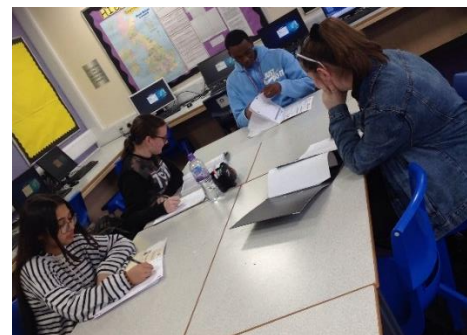
All students are supported to fulfil their potential.

What next?

English Literature is a facilitating subject and excellent preparation for further study or the work place. Higher Education courses and employers in many fields value an A Level in English Literature.

Literature provides an excellent skills base which will support you in a wide field of career options. These include: critical thinking, developing your viewpoints and opinions, forming clear and reasoned arguments and being able to unpick others' views. In a fast paced society, these strengths are widely appreciated. This is in addition to cultural knowledge and an appreciation of life from others' perspectives, which is crucial to being empathetic.

A high proportion of English Literature students will follow careers in law, marketing and public relations, education, event management, leisure, hospitality, tourism and administration.



... pursuing excellence