

English Language and English Literature

We follow the AQA GCSE English Language and English Literature specifications. Through the study of these dynamic and engaging courses you will be inspired, motivated and challenged by the broad range of texts explored.

English Language will allow you to:

- Demonstrate skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing necessary to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately.
- Express yourself creatively and imaginatively.
- Understand the patterns, structures and conventions of written and spoken English.
- Select and adapt speech and writing to different situations and audiences.
- Become a critical reader of a range of texts, including multi-modal texts.
- Use reading to gain access to knowledge and to develop your own skills as a writer.
- Connect ideas, themes and issues, drawing on a range of texts.

English Literature will allow you to:

- Enjoy the experience of reading literature.
- Understand and respond to literary texts in different forms and from different periods and cultures.
- Communicate an informed personal response appropriately and effectively.
- Appreciate different ways in which writers achieve their effects.
- Experience literature's contribution to aesthetic, imaginative and intellectual growth.
- Explore the contribution of literature to an understanding of areas of human concern.

How will I be assessed?

English Language

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing. Reading questions based on an unseen passage from a literature text and a descriptive or narrative based writing task.

1hr 45min exam (50% of the total marks)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives. Reading questions based upon one unseen non-fiction and one unseen literary non-fiction text and a piece of writing to express a viewpoint.

1hr 45 min (50% of the total marks)

English Literature

Paper 1: Shakespeare and a 19th century novel. You will write two extended essays based upon extracts from one Shakespeare text and one 19th century novel.

1hr 45min (40% of the total marks)

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry. You will write one essay on a modern prose or drama text, followed by a comparative essay based upon anthology poetry and a response to an unseen poem.

2hr 15 min (60% of marks)

Further Information

The course will provide you with a rich diet of experiences and texts to prepare you with the skills and knowledge required for the above range of tasks. There will be teacher led guidance but also independent research and preparation, group work and collaborative tasks, discussion and active dramatic approaches. Set texts will be decided by teachers during the course.

Exam Board: AQA Syllabus English Language 8700; English Literature 8702

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702