

GCSE

English Language and English Literature



The English department has a policy of inclusion where we believe the study of GCSE Language and Literature is an entitlement for all. We believe that there are many important areas that can be developed alongside the students' ability to write. This includes an appreciation of life and relationships as well as an analysis of our role in society. These areas are explored through poetry, novels and plays. They are also debated through the study of language where an analysis of the use of persuasive language, descriptive and rhetorical techniques develops important life skills for all students.

English is a compulsory subject. By studying this course, students will be supported to gain qualifications which will be recognised by all employers. This course will also prepare students to study English Literature and English Language at a higher level.

English Language

Exam board: AQA

- Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing
- Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

English Literature

Exam board: AQA

- Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel
- Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry

Spoken Language Endorsement:

- An audio visual recording (student and examiner)

Assessment

All examinations in English Language and Literature are now linear; meaning all external assessments will take place at the end of year 11. Internal assessments will be carried out across the two years to monitor student progress. The GCSE English Language and English Literature specifications will both be assessed using the 9 - 1 grading criteria.

English Language

Two examination papers:

Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

1 hour 45 minutes (50% of GCSE – made up 25% writing assessment and 25% reading assessment)

Paper 2 – Writers’ Viewpoints and Perspectives

1 hour 45 minutes (50% of GCSE – made up 25% writing assessment and 25% reading assessment)

English Language assesses reading, writing, speaking and listening (20% of marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar).

AQA English Literature

Two examination papers:

Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

1 hour 45 minutes (40% of GCSE)

Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry

2 hours 15 minutes (60% of GCSE)

English Literature assesses reading skills on each examination paper, with 5% of the total marks being awarded to spelling, punctuation and grammar.

For further information please contact Miss Chadkirk, Head of English Faculty:

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