



English Literature

What will I do?

Year 7 & Year 8

In Year 7, you will have access to a range of different texts from a variety of genres. You will explore character, setting and narrative within these texts developing your love of reading and literature. You will include topics such as Monsters, Myths, Magic and Mayhem. In this topic you will explore extracts from the Harry Potter books along with other fantasy based literature. Later in Year 7, you will explore the topic A Walk on the Dark Side in which you will look at gothic texts such as Coraline, Frankenstein, Whispers in the Graveyard and How To Train Your Dragon. Finally, you will explore literature from around the world in the topic Around the World in Words. In this unit you will look at texts and poetry from other cultures and traditions. Alongside all of this you will develop your own creative writing skills looking at how to write engaging, entertaining and exciting stories using some of the ideas from the texts you have studied as a starting point.

In Year 8, you will have access to a range of different texts from a variety of different genres, building on your experiences and understanding from Year 7. The first topic you will explore is What does the Future Hold? In this unit of work you will read texts such as The Hunger Games, Twilight, The Maze Runner, Lord of the Flies and 1984. Later in Year 8, you will explore the topic of The Evil Within. In this unit you will look a selection of extracts from Shakespeare's play considering the roles of heroes and villains. We will explore the different aspects of a range of character types and you will develop your ability to write in a comparative and evaluative way. The final topic you will study in Year 8 is Age is Just a Number. The stimulus for this unit is taken from texts such as Jane Eyre, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas and To Kill a Mockingbird. Alongside your reading you will develop your writing skills with a specific focus on autobiographical and self-reflective writing.

GCSE

GCSE Language and GCSE Literature are compulsory for all students. In addition to this, there are 2 papers within each subject, GCSE English Literature which includes Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel. Within English Language as the papers covers Modern Texts and Poetry. Success in GCSE Language and Literature can lead to careers in teaching, acting, journalism and law.

Exam papers

English Language & English Literature

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

What's assessed:

Section A: Reading One literature fiction text

Section B: Writing Descriptive or narrative writing

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

What's assessed:

Section A: Reading

- One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

Section B: Writing

- Writing to present a viewpoint
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

What's assessed:

- Romeo and Juliet OR Macbeth
- Jekyll and Hyde OR A Christmas Carol

How it's assessed:

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE
- Closed book exam

Section A Shakespeare:

Section B The 19th-century novel

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

What's assessed:

- An Inspector Calls
- Relationships poetry
- Unseen poetry

How it's assessed:

- Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes
 - 96 marks
 - 60% of GCSE
- Section A Modern texts
- Section B Poetry
- Section C Unseen poetry

What will this course prepare me for?

Students who follow the course will develop their literature skills and enhance their powers of critical analysis. Written and discussion work throughout the course will encourage students to become effective and persuasive communicators. As a result this subject is fundamental in preparing students for many careers including Law, Business, the Media, Social Services, Education, Personnel and Marketing.