South Nottinghamshire Academy

English Language

Why English Language?

Language is at the heart of everything we do. Every conversation, social media post, political speech, news article and text message reveals something about who we are, how we think and the society we live in.

A Level English Language is a fascinating subject that combines creativity, analysis and investigation. You will explore why people speak and write in different ways, how language changes over time, how children learn to communicate and how language can shape identity, power and relationships.

What makes English Language unique is that it allows you to study something you use every day while developing the skills to investigate it like a linguist. Along the way, you will become a more perceptive reader, a more confident communicator and a more critical thinker.

If you are curious about people, interested in current issues and enjoy exploring the world around you, English Language will challenge, inspire and surprise you.

Don't just use language. Understand it. Question it. Investigate it. Master it

What can I expect?

AQA A-Level English Language will transform you from a casual speaker into a master codebreaker of human communication! This course approaches language with a **scientific, psychological, and sociological mindset**. You are no longer just reading texts—you are dissecting how power, identity, history, and the human brain shape every single word we speak and write.

You'll think about: how English has evolved over time; how we learnt to talk, read and write; how different genders, occupations, social and ethnic groups use language; how language is used for power and change; how technology has influenced our use of language.

What do I need?

You need at least a grade 5 in English Language

What about the future?

The ability to communicate effectively, analyse critically and think independently has never been more valuable. A Level English Language develops these essential qualities, preparing students for the demands of university study and a rapidly changing professional world.

Graduates with strong communication and analytical skills are sought after across a wide range of fields, from law, journalism and education to marketing, politics, media and business. The course nurtures intellectual curiosity, academic resilience and the confidence to engage with complex ideas, all qualities associated with success in higher education and beyond.

Wherever your ambitions lead, English Language provides the skills, confidence and insight to help you achieve them.

Paper 1 – 2 hours 30 mins (40%)	**Paper 2 – 2 hours 30 mins (40%)**	**Coursework (20%)**
Section A: Textual Variations and Representations Section B: Children's Language Development	Section A: Diversity and Change Section B: Language Discourses	**Original Writing -** Crafting a piece of original creative or functional writing in a chosen genre/style **Language Investigation** An independent investigation into an area of language that interests you.