



English Literature

Why English Literature?

Working from the belief that no text exists in isolation but is the product of the time in which it was produced, the A-level English Literature course will encourage you to **explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts in within which they were written, received and understood**. It is a highly respected A Level that can be instrumental in helping students gain university places in a variety of subjects.

What can I expect?

English students are taught to think analytically, consider different interpretations and listen and respond to one another sensitively in preparation for the seminar style environment they are likely to find at university. You will be expected to come to class having formed critical opinions of your own and be prepared to share them. This is a wonderful part of the course, where we all learn from each other! You are part of the longest conversation about human behaviour ever!

What do I need?

You need at least a Grade 5 in English Literature at GCSE level. Grade 6 is desirable.

What about the future?

- Demonstrates that you are articulate, thoughtful and able to communicate.
- Skills gained through the study of English Literature are particularly useful for careers in publishing and printing, journalism, media and television, public relations, social and pastoral care, teaching and information management.

How will I be assessed?

The exam board we use for this course is AQA, Specification A, Option 2A.

Paper 1 – Love through the Ages (Year 12)	Paper 2 – Modern Texts (Year 13)	Independent Critical Study (Coursework Component)
Section A: Shakespeare Othello- Extract based question Section B: Unseen Read and respond to two unseen poems on the theme of love Section C: Prose & Poetry Comparative essay on themes in Jane Eyre and two poems from the AQA Love through the ages: Modern Poetry anthology.	Section A: Modern Novel The Handmaid's Tale (Margaret Atwood) Section B: Q1: Unseen Exploration of unseen prose extracts Q2: Drama & Poetry Comparison of 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' (Tennessee Williams) and 'Feminine Gospels' (Carol Ann Duffy)	Students choose two texts, these can be poetry, prose or drama that they would like to explore in relation to a theme or idea of their choice. One of the texts must be <u>Pre-1900</u> . Students then write a <u>2500 word</u> essay exploring their ideas.