

A Level English Literature

Curriculum Intent

This course is ideal for students who excel in both Level 2/GCSE English courses and have a natural affinity with subjects that explore the world around them. Students who love literature and reading are encouraged to take this subject to deepen their knowledge of the literary cannon. The course is aimed at students who attain ideally grade 7+ at GCSE and students who simply LOVE reading!

This qualification intends for students to:

- Build on skills acquired at GCSE whilst also preparing for subsequent further and higher study
- Engage with a variety of assessment styles, such as closed-booked passage-based questions; unseen material; single text questions; multi-text questions; students will develop their ability to analyse, evaluate and critique.
- Independently research and explore a range of texts and areas of their own interest to complete an essay of their choosing.
- Explore a range of genres, literary styles and authors

Assessment, Marking and Feedback

- Each term, two essays are set on studied texts. These are either timed essays in class and occasionally set as homework tasks – essays are marked using the exam board's criteria and feedback lessons (ideally WITHIN 1-2 weeks) enable students to understand how to make improvements and progress through teacher verbal and written feedback and peer exemplars.
- Year 13 students are also given specific deadlines for NEA (detailed on curriculum map)
- Year 12 and Year 13 PPE (the curriculum map details when preparation lesson are taught, PPEs take place and when feedback is planned for)

Homework

- Weekly reading to support class reading
- Research tasks
- Essay development/planning
- Essays
- NEA drafting (as detailed in curriculum map)

Links to National Curriculum / Syllabus Specifications

AQA Specification A (Option B)

Texts taught during the A Level English Literature course:

- *Othello* – William Shakespeare
- *The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald
- AQA Anthology of pre-1900 poetry
- *The Handmaid's Tale* – Margaret Atwood
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* – Tennessee Williams
- *Feminine Gospels* – Carol Ann Duffy
- *Tis a Pity She's a Whore* – John Ford, plus independently chosen texts.

Exam Support & Revision Resources

- Coursework clinic once a week after school plus bookable 1:1 sessions during student study/free periods with MBO (dependent on MBO availability)
- Study guides, such as 'Pearson Revise...' and CGP A Level guides for specific texts.
- British Library 'Discovering Literature' free online library of resources (essential for AO3/contextual understanding) ; British Library archives

- LitCharts
- Departmental resources such as study booklets, knowledge organisers etc

Extracurricular and Enrichment Opportunities

- Visit to British Library
- Visit to the Imperial War Museum
- Visit to The Beaney House of Art and Knowledge in Canterbury

Interested to know more?

To read:

- Other texts written by studied authors and work by their contemporaries. eg. Ernest Hemingway, TS Eliot etc

To watch:

- BBC Storyville (a selection of episode on post war writers e.g. The Angry Young Men; film adaptations of studied texts such as A Streetcar Named Desire and The Great Gatsby)

To listen:

- BBC Radio 4 Radio plays;