

GCSE
English
Literature

STUDENT
GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Our GCSE in English Literature develops your reading skills, helping you with all other subjects that you study. It will help with your ability to analyse, evaluate and respond effectively.

You will have the opportunity to explore changing times, cultures, viewpoints and situations through a range of novels, plays and poems.

Using independent research and critical reading, you will build up your interest and enjoyment of literature while increasing your skills for future studies and employment.

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE?

English Literature enhances your ability to be critical and analytical. It opens up your mind and imagination, helping you to think independently and increase your knowledge and understanding of a variety of literature.

The course will develop your ability to write accurately and clearly. You will learn to research, plan and prepare your responses using your own ideas and interests. You will discover how to be creative when explaining themes, characters, settings and their influences through social, cultural and historical situations.

If you enjoy reading a wide range of literature and exploring issues and ideas within texts then this course is ideal for you.

UNIQUE FEATURES OF THIS QUALIFICATION?

We offer a range of texts, which includes a mix of local and modern writers, giving variety to suit a range of readers.

The amount of work is manageable in research through the controlled assessment.

There is a carefully selected variety of poems across three themed poetry anthologies to appeal to different interests.



WHAT WILL I STUDY?

UNIT ASSESSMENT	AREAS OF STUDY
<p>Unit 1: The Study of Prose</p> <p>You will sit an examination lasting 1 hour 45 minutes.</p> <p>Section A: one question (closed book) Section B: one question</p> <p>This unit is worth 30 percent.</p>	<p>Section A: Novel You will study, explore and respond to a modern novel, demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of the text.</p> <p>Section B: Unseen Prose You will learn to analyse and evaluate an unseen nineteenth-century prose extract.</p>
<p>Unit 2: The Study of Drama and Poetry</p> <p>You will sit an examination lasting 2 hours.</p> <p>Section A: one question (open book) Section B: one question (open book)</p> <p>This unit is worth 50 percent.</p>	<p>Section A: Drama You will study, explore and respond to a play by a modern dramatist, demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of the script.</p> <p>Section B: Poetry You will study, explore and respond to a collection of poems we provide. You will learn to analyse, evaluate, and compare and contrast the poems.</p>
<p>Unit 3: The Study of Shakespeare</p> <p>You will complete a controlled assessment task lasting 2 hours. This will be one extended writing task marked by your teacher and moderated by us.</p> <p>This task is worth 20 percent.</p>	<p>You will study, explore and respond to a Shakespeare play, demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of the work. This is an extended writing task based on a theme.</p>



Unit 1
Prose
30%



Unit 2
Drama and Poetry
50%



Unit 3
Shakespeare
20%

WHAT CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS, THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES WILL I DEVELOP?



CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS AT KEY STAGE 4 COMMUNICATION, USING MATHEMATICS AND USING ICT

Through this course you will:

- enhance your oral and written communication skills by learning how to express your viewpoint and present an argument;
- gain experience in using ICT to research and present information;
- develop your planning, time management and self-evaluation skills;
- learn from others through discussion, group work and shared tasks; and
- increase your ability to use critical analysis, propose ideas, opinions or decisions and be able to justify them.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A QUALIFICATION IN ENGLISH LITERATURE?

This specification allows you to develop the use of written and face-to-face communication, as well as your ability to research, understand and respond to ideas. You could apply these skills in further study or employment in the media industry including print, online, TV and radio.

Journalism or publishing are other possible routes that English Literature can lead to, for example editorial, proofreading and correcting books before they go to print. A job in advertising, public relations or the press is also an option with a qualification in English Literature.

With further study, teaching is another profession open to you, or you could work for an arts organisation trying to secure funding or publishing material for a museum or a gallery. You could also go into sectors like law, business, social work or even politics.

