

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

# A LEVEL

AQA

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Entry Requirements                   | GCSE Grade 6 in both English Language and English Literature     |
| Head of Department or Course Contact | Ms G Higham  |
| Contact E-Mail Address               | <a href="mailto:ghigham@stedmunds.org">ghigham@stedmunds.org</a> |

## **Brief introduction to subject:**

This course has a distinct philosophy which centres on different ways of reading and the connections that exist between texts within a literary genre. In this way, students can gain a solid understanding of how texts can be connected and how they can be interpreted in multiple ways in order that students can arrive at their own interpretations and become confident autonomous readers. Students are then not only equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for exams, but also experience a rich, challenging and coherent approach to English Literature that provides an excellent basis for further study in the subject.

## **Progression to Career/ University Courses:**

Students following this course may choose to study Literature at University. Some students then continue on to do a PGCE.

## **Key Points:**

In Year 12 this specification allows students to:

- study literature within a specific genre;
- study various texts, chosen from a set text list;
- write about texts in a number of different ways.

In Year 13 this specification allows students to:

- study texts within specific genres;
- study texts through engagement with a range of theoretical ideas;
- write about texts in a number of different ways.

## A-Level Course

| A-Level Course   |   |
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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Paper 1</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Title:</u> Literary Genres</b></p> <p>Option 1A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aspects of tragedy</li></ul> <p>Study of three texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>one Shakespeare text (<i>Othello</i>)</li><li>a second drama text (<i>Death of a Salesman</i>)</li><li>one further text of which one must be written pre-1900 (selection of Keats' poetry)</li></ul>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Paper 2</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Title:</u> Texts and Genres</b></p> <p>Option 2A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Elements of crime writing</li></ul> <p>Study of three texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>one post-2000 prose text (<i>Atonement</i>)</li><li>one poetry text which must be written pre-1900 (<i>The Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i>)</li><li>one further text (<i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i>)</li></ul> <p>Exam will include an unseen passage</p> |
| <p><b><u>Assessment: (Closed book)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes</li><li>40% of A-level</li></ul> <p><b><u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 75 marks</b></p> <p><b><u>Information regarding Assessment:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Section A: One passage-based question on set Shakespeare text (25 marks)</li><li>Section B: One essay question on set Shakespeare text (25 marks)</li><li>Section C: One essay question linking two texts (25 marks)</li></ul>  | <p><b><u>Assessment: (Open book)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>written exam: 3 hours</li><li>40% of A-level</li></ul> <p><b><u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 75 marks</b></p> <p><b><u>Information regarding Assessment:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Section A: One compulsory question on an unseen passage (25 marks)</li><li>Section B: One essay question on set text (25 marks)</li><li>Section C: One essay question which connects two texts (25 marks)</li></ul>                   |
| <p><b><u>Non-exam assessment</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Title:</u> Theory and Independence</b></p> <p>Study of two texts, one poetry and one prose, informed by the study of the AQA Critical Anthology which has accessible extracts on the following critical methods and ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>narrative theory</li><li>feminist theory</li><li>Marxist theory</li><li>eco-critical theory</li><li>post-colonial theory</li><li>literary value and the canon</li><li>post-colonial theory</li><li>literary value and the canon</li></ul> <p><b><u>Assessment: (by teacher)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>20% of A-level</li><li>moderated by AQA</li></ul> <p><b><u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 50 marks</b></p> <p><b><u>Information regarding Assessment:</u></b></p> <p>Two essays of 1250 - 1500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical Anthology. One essay can be re-creative. The re-creative piece will be accompanied by a commentary.</p> |   |