

# OCR A LEVEL

## LATIN



Fides Caritas Unitas

**ALL SAINTS**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL • YORK

The Latin A Level course gives students the opportunity to explore further the language and literature of Ancient Rome. The study of an inflected language involves a detailed knowledge of grammar and vocabulary which leads to a high level of linguistic understanding and analytical skill. Reading texts in the original Latin demands an ability to appreciate how Roman authors used this complex and beautiful language to reflect on their extraordinary history and society. The combination of linguistic and literary study gives a profound insight into the social, political, moral, artistic and scientific life of a people whose influence can still be seen in all these areas in the world today.

### COURSE CONTENT

#### Year 12

Language work builds on and extends GCSE grammar and vocabulary to work on unseen translation skills and translation from English into Latin.

Literature work involves the study of two texts, one prose and one verse, in their linguistic, literary and historical context. Examples of texts studied are Cicero's legal and political speeches and the elegiac poetry of Catullus and Ovid.

#### Year 13

Students extend their translation skills further with complex passages of unseen prose and verse, exploring Latin idiom, style and poetic metre as they do so. They now translate passages of continuous prose into Latin.

Two further literature texts are studied, with more extended commentary and essay questions. Recent examples include the historians Livy and Tacitus and Virgil's *Aeneid*.

### ASSESSMENT

Four papers, each worth 25%:  
Prose Unseen Translation and Comprehension or Composition  
Verse Unseen Translation  
Prose Literature – commentary and essay questions  
Verse Literature – commentary and essay questions

### SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

The content of the Latin course combines very well with many other subjects at A Level, including Modern Languages, English and History, whilst the analytical skills and vocabulary knowledge give an excellent background for Maths and Medicine.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in Latin GCSE

### PROGRESSION

Latin is highly regarded by universities and employers, who appreciate the high level of academic study it demands and the excellent analytical and linguistic skills it bestows. It gives a foundation for Classics as a degree, which involves a huge breadth of linguistic, literary, historical, philosophical and artistic study, but is also a good background for degrees in English, History, Modern Languages and Linguistics.

### FUTURES

The development of language skills to a high level and the broad interest in literature and history in Latin demand an intellectual flexibility applicable to a wide variety of careers. Latin students are sought after in Law, Journalism, Publishing, Media and Communications, Publishing, Teaching, Writing, Translation and the Civil Service, to name but a few.

#### COURSE CONTACT

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