

ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL



If you enjoy discussing how something you have read makes you feel, how it has broadened your mind and inspired you to think in different ways, then English Literature is the subject for you.

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- English Literature works well alongside all subjects, especially those where you are encouraged to think for yourself and express your own opinions.
- Other creative subjects such as Performing Arts, Media, Art and Modern Foreign Languages can be very supportive, as can History as there is a need to understand where the texts studied fit into the wider world – both today and in the past.

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- We have had students go on to study Law, Journalism, Psychology, History and of course English Literature at degree level.
- English Literature really is this versatile.

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English Literature is a two year course where we study prose, poetry and drama.

- Prose – a comparison of Bram Stoker’s ‘Dracula’ and ‘The Picture of Dorian Gray’ by Oscar Wilde.
- Poetry – two collections: ‘Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry’ and ‘The Great Modern Poets.’
- Drama – ‘Twelfth Night’ by Shakespeare and ‘The Duchess of Malfi’ by John Webster.



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There are three exams:

- Prose is one (from a choice of two) comparison question: 1 hour 15 minutes.
- Poetry is one (from a choice of two) question on each collection: 2 hours 15 minutes.
- Drama is one (from a choice of two) question on each play: 2 hours 15 minutes.

For all exams you are allowed to have clean copies of the texts in the exam with you.



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- There is also a coursework unit consisting of a 3,000 word comparison piece. For this we would expect you to choose your own two texts, texts you love or have always wanted to read but never had the time – until now. We can offer advice and guidance if you need it.
- We would expect prospective students to have achieved a Grade 6 at GCSE English Literature or Language.

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