

English Language



About the Subject

English Language is a hugely popular subject here at St Wilfrid's. Our students study a range of fascinating topics and begin to think about how language is used by different groups in the real world.

How written and spoken texts work is a complicated process, which involves considering the purpose, genre and audience for a text, but also the society in which it was written. So, we analyse the influence of, for example, gender; on how women and men talk and how power can shape the language choices that a writer or speaker may make.

Over recent years, the results students have achieved have been absolutely fantastic! This is down to the hard work and dedication from specialist staff, and also the passion and enthusiasm shown by students. We also make sure that the choice of topic for your Language Investigation – which is your A Level coursework – is up to you: we give you guidance but we will encourage you to pursue the area of English Language which interests you most.

“I really enjoy studying English Language: it’s interesting to learn about different accents and dialects.”
Sicily (Year 12)

Course Content

In your first year, you will study the following topics:

- Introduction to Language Study
- Language and the Individual
- Textual Variations and Representations
- Language Varieties (Diversity and Discourses)

All units will be assessed at the end of the academic year through external examinations, counting for the entirety of the AS qualification.

As you move into your second year of study, you will use what you have learnt in your first year and begin to look at topics in more depth. These topics are as follows:

- Language, the Individual and Society
- Language Diversity and Change
- Language Investigation
- Original Writing and Commentary

Units of work covered in the second year will be assessed by external examinations (80%) and non-examination assessment (20%).

Entry Requirements

To study English Language with us, you need to have achieved at least a grade B in GCSE English or GCSE English Language.

Career Paths

Marketing; Advertisements; Publishing; Research; Language therapy; Law; Human resources; Social work; Policy work; Civil service; Teaching; Journalism.

Watch our Video

At vimeo.com/110886408 or scan this QR code:

