

# English Literature



## About the Subject

Everything that has ever been written in poetry, prose or drama is a record of the thoughts and ideas which people have had through the ages. By taking English Literature, you will be studying the history of what people have thought and felt.

This subject considers how and why writers make the choices they do, so that readers respond to the messages in their texts: this involves analysing the choices writers make with structure and language but also involves thinking about the contexts surrounding the production of the texts.

Students who take English Literature with us, tend to achieve highly in the subject: we have a track record of students often achieving A\* grades. The quality of teaching is superb and your lessons will be very much about you exploring how Literature works. You will read and analyse poetry, drama and prose, some of which we will decide upon in advance. However, we take pride in giving students opportunity to choose some texts that they will study: the non-exam assessment is up to individual students to choose texts and therefore pursue your own reading interests.

**"The course is highly challenging but rewarding: we are studying some of the greatest novels of all time."  
Lois (Year 12)**

## Course Content

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

Aspects of Tragedy

- Prose (*Tess of the D'Urbervilles*)
- Shakespeare (*Othello*)
- Poetry (Thomas Hardy)
- Drama (*Death of a Salesman*)

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 study new texts along with the original texts which you started in the first year:

- Crime writing (extract analysis)
- Pre-1900 poetry (*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*)
- Post-2000 prose (*Atonement*)
- Shakespeare (*Hamlet*)

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

## Career Paths

Publishing; Research; Law; Teaching; Journalism

**Watch our Video**

At [vimeo.com/110886408](https://vimeo.com/110886408) or scan this QR code:

