

CORE COURSE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

ACCREDITING AUTHORITY | AQA

QUALIFICATION

GCSE

FACULTY

ENGLISH

STAFF CONTACT

Mrs Price

WHAT QUALITIES & SKILLS DO I NEED?

You will develop, practise and refine the skills of reading for meaning and writing accurately for different purposes and audiences. You will be responding to texts written across the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

COURSES FOLLOWED

[English Language](#)

[English Literature](#)

HOW IS THE COURSE ORGANISED & ASSESSED?

English Language: 100% examination

English Literature: 100% examination

There are four exam papers to sit (two for English Language and two for English Literature).

Paper 1: English Language

You will read an extract from a modern literary text and answer questions on this text which will become more complex as you go through the paper.

You will also produce one piece of writing which will be a narrative or description. You will have a choice of questions.

Paper 2: English Language

You will compare extracts from literary and non-literary fiction.

You will produce one piece of writing which presents a viewpoint. The theme is linked with the reading section.

Paper 1: English Literature

You will write responses to two texts - a Shakespeare play and a 19th century novel. This is a closed-book exam, but you will be provided with an extract on the exam paper.

Paper 2: English Literature

You will write a response to a modern play. This is a closed-book exam and you will choose one of two questions to answer. You will also write responses to a group of poems studied in class along with unseen poetry.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW MANY GCSEs DO I STUDY?

You will study English Language and English Literature. Two GCSEs in total!

WILL I STUDY ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE AT THE SAME TIME?

You won't have separate classes for these two subjects but you will learn new skills for each. Some lessons will be English Language and some will cover English Literature. The skills you develop in each will prove useful in both.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE?

English Language involves analysing individual texts, both fiction and non-fiction, to explore and compare the ways language and structure are crafted for effect to suit particular genres, purposes and audiences. You will also have the opportunity to produce your own texts through creative writing tasks.

English Literature involves the study of novels, plays and poetry, allowing you to explore the development of events, characters and themes. You will also consider the wider context of these texts and how they impact on the intended audience.

WHEN ARE MY EXAMS?

Exams take place in June of Year 11. You will take two exams in English Language and two exams in English Literature.

WILL I COMPLETE CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS?

No. Controlled Assessment is no longer part of English GCSE.

HOW MUCH DO THE EXAMS COUNT FOR?

The exams taken in English Language and English Literature count towards 100% of your final grade in each qualification.

HOW MANY ENGLISH LESSONS DO I HAVE A FORTNIGHT?

8

WHY DO I HAVE TO STUDY ENGLISH?

English Language is valued very highly by employers as well as further and higher education institutions. It is seen as a sign that you can communicate effectively in both writing and speech and have the necessary literacy skills to cope effectively in the workplace.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A GCSE ENGLISH QUALIFICATION?

The short answer to that is...anything! Success in GCSE English and English Literature is seen as the key to many other subject or career opportunities. As many of the skills can be transferred to other areas, it doesn't limit your career options, it expands them.

