

ENGLISH LITERATURE

The course is designed for students who wish to extend their love of Literature through a critical exploration of a range of texts over time within different genres.

COURSE DETAILS

A Level
AQA - 7717
English GCSE Grade 5 or higher

Students will study texts within different literary and cultural genres, namely tragedies and social protest writing. Students will debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as they develop their own informed personal responses.

The studying of different genres involves looking at ways in which authors shape meanings within their texts. It also involves thinking about a wide range of relevant contexts; some of them to do with the production of the text at the time of its writing, some to do with how the text has been received over time, and some with how the text can be interpreted by readers today.

The course requires critical thinking, wider reading to grasp social and historical contexts and an appreciation of how genres and their qualities are not fixed and therefore open to multiple interpretations.

In year 12 we will be studying social protest writing which will include:

- ' The Kite Runner (Khaled Hosseini)
- ' The Handmaid's Tale (Margaret Atwood)
- ' Songs of Innocence and Experience (William Blake)
- ' Unseen prose extracts

In Year 13 we will be studying the genre of tragedy:

- ' Othello (Shakespeare)
- ' A selection of poems by John Keats
- ' Death of a Salesman (Arthur Miller)

At A2, students sit 2 exams and also produce two pieces of coursework which makes up 20% of the final grade. This will involve an essay and a piece of recreative writing.

