

English Language and English Literature GCSE

English Language GCSE (AQA)

The GCSE course will enable students of all abilities to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19th, 20th and 21st century time periods as well as to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures.

Students will prepare for exams on two equally-balanced papers which both have source material linked by themes. The reading sources act as stimuli for writing tasks, providing students with a clear route through each paper. Paper 1: 'Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing' looks at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers, and students will be asked to produce a narrative or descriptive piece of writing. Paper 2 'Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives' looks at how different writers present a similar topic over time. Students will also be examined on spoken language.

English Literature (AQA)

The GCSE course will enable students of all abilities to develop the skills they need to read and understand a range of Literature which includes a modern play, a pre 19th Century novel, a Shakespeare play and poetry. They will study these texts and learn about plot, characterisation, themes, social and historical context as well as language analysis. They will prepare for two exams where they will be tested on their ability to understand an extract from the texts, as well as looking at the whole text and, for the poetry section, students will be examined on poetry from the anthology as well as unseen poetry. Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century novel – for this students will study 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'A Christmas Carol' and Paper 2: Modern texts and Poetry – for this students will study 'An Inspector Calls' and a pre-determined selection of poetry on the theme of 'Power and Conflict'.