English Literature (GCSE)

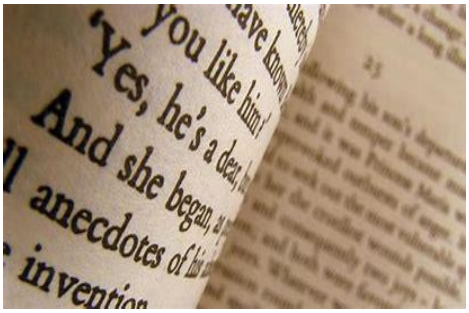
Information from the exam board can be found here.

Grades awarded: 9 – 1

Why study this subject?

Studying English Literature is not just about books and reading. Literature unlocks the world, allowing an understanding of culture, history, society and politics that might otherwise never be discovered. It is about people and emotions, unlocking feelings we might never have felt ourselves. It allows us to think deeply, and form an understanding about issues we may not have considered without it. And, besides all that, it's fun!

What will I study in this course?



- 19th century novel: *Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde* or *A Christmas Carol*
- An Anthology of *Power & Conflict* Poetry
- Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*
- 20th century drama: *An Inspector Calls*
- Understanding & analysis of plot, character, setting and themes
- Essay writing skills

How will I be assessed?

The course is 100% exam and two examinations are taken at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel;
- Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry.

What will this qualification lead to?

The skills you learn from studying English Literature are marketable in most careers and can be easily transferred from one role to another. Having an English Literature qualification provides you with a good foundation when it comes to applying for jobs. Students who have studied English Literature typically end up working in all kinds of roles including: teaching, law, communications, marketing, commercial writing, media, publishing and journalism, to name a few.

How is the course structured?

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 9	Through the study of a novel, students will look at extracts to understand and analyse plot, character, theme and setting.	Students will study a range of extracts from classic texts. GCSE English Literature course begins- study of 6 poems from the AQA Power & Conflict Poetry Anthology.	Continued study of 6 poems from the poetry Anthology, & study of plot, character, theme and setting in *Romeo & Juliet*.
Year 10	Continued study of plot, character, theme & setting in *Romeo & Juliet,* and introduction of the 19th century novel. Essay skills.	Continued understanding of plot, character, theme and setting in a 19th century novel- either *Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde* by R.L. Stevenson or *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens with a focus on essay writing skills for English Literature Paper 1.	Study of the remaining poems from the Poetry Anthology with a focus on essay writing skills, and how to analyse and compare unseen poems.
Year 11	Understanding of the 20th century drama, *An Inspector Calls* with a focus on plot, character and theme as well as essay technique and developing analysis.	Revision of all English Literature exam texts with a focus on essay writing skills.	Revision & Examinations

For more information, contact: Mrs Hunter (Head of English)

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