



Course Requirements

Sixth Form Entry Requirement plus
GCSE English Language – Grade 5 or
GCSE English Literature – Grade 5

Syllabus

AQA

Who to Contact

Mrs R Ashcroft
Course Leader

Overview

Novels, poems and plays are powerful things. It is remarkable to think that somebody writing on the other side of the world or 400 years ago can make us laugh or cry or change the way we see the world - and all of that simply with words.

On this course you will discover some of the most remarkable pieces of classic and contemporary literature ever written and learn how these writers carefully control their use of language, form and structure. You will see that literary texts are always open to a range of different interpretations. You will also find out about the importance of the time and place a book is written and read and how literature is often shaped by the writer's own experience.

Structure

For examination units (one 150 minute and one 180 minute exam at the end of Year 13) your teacher will draw upon his or her experience to select texts which they think you will enjoy talking and writing about. Some of our current set texts, such as Twelfth Night and The Importance of Being Earnest allow you to view literature through the lens of comedy. Others, such as The Kite Runner and poetry by Tony Harrison focus on literature in terms of political and social protest. You can get an idea of the range of texts available by looking at the AQA website.

For your Year 13 Non-Exam Assessment (similar to coursework) we will offer some guidance but you will be able to choose your own questions and texts. This is worth 20% of your marks.

English is a popular choice. English courses help you to develop your skills in writing, close reading, analysis and discussion. This means that A Level English Literature is good preparation for almost any degree course or career as well as being what some universities have identified as a 'facilitating subject'.