

A Level English Literature

OPEN EVENING SEPT 2020

Key principle:



Working from the belief that no text exists in isolation but is the product of the time in which it was produced, **English Literature** encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood.

What will you study?

Y12 – Paper 1 (Love through the Ages) 40%

Shakespeare: Othello

Unseen Poetry: Comparing two poems

Comparing texts: The Great Gatsby
and “Love through the Ages
anthology poetry”

Y13 – Paper 2 (Modern Times – Literature from 1945 to present) 40%

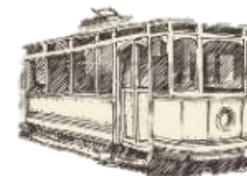
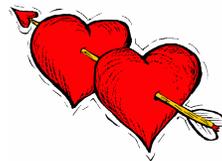
Prose: The Handmaid's Tale

Drama: A Streetcar Named Desire

Poetry: The Feminine Gospels

NEA (Coursework) 20%

**Comparative critical
study:** King Lear and
one other text (2500
words)



What does a typical lesson look like?



SHARED AND/OR INDEPENDENT READING OF
EXTRACTS/FULL TEXTS



DISCUSS AND DEBATE IDEAS TO INVESTIGATE
AND MAKE CONNECTIONS, DRAWING OUT
PATTERNS OF SIMILARITY AND DIFFERENCE



EXPLORE POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS IN ORDER
DEVELOP YOUR OWN PERSONAL RESPONSES

Is it the right course for you?

Typically Literature students:

- ▶ Enjoy discussion and debate
- ▶ Are interested in the world around them
- ▶ Have good written expression
- ▶ Enjoy reading and watching stories independently
- ▶ Are on track to achieve at least a grade 5/6 in one of your English GCSEs



Olivia Smith (9s at GCSE, A* at A Level English Literature) now studying at the University of Manchester



Rosie Hague (A at A Level English Literature, now at University of Newcastle) with the Head of Sixth Form, Mrs Burdekin

Maddie Swannack (A*AAB) now studying medicine at University of Leicester



What do we expect of our students?

Focus

- Maintain focus throughout each lesson and apply yourself fully in reading, writing and discussion tasks

Read

- Read widely around the subject – going beyond the texts studied in class

Make

- Make every effort to attend any relevant trips and visits

Have

- Have a folder for each of the exam papers and keep it organised

Meet

- Meet all coursework deadlines

Arrive

- Arrive at each lesson fully equipped and having completed the weekly homework tasks

What do our students think?

The texts are enjoyable. The skills required are similar to GCSE but we go into more depth with the topics." – Ellie, Y12

"Teachers communicate effectively especially with feedback from essays" – Y13

"The work is enjoyable and the teachers are all very supportive. The small class sizes allow us to have interesting discussions and debates in a safe environment. The essay writing skills also help with other subjects."
– Poppy and Caitlin, Y12

"I enjoy the links created between the texts studied and political and social issues" - Y13

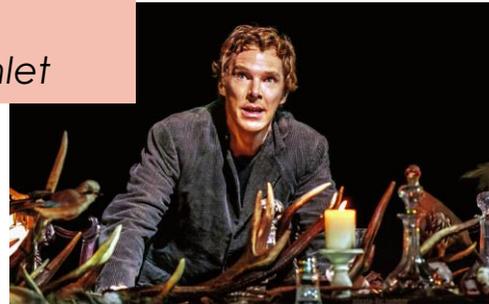
Extra-curricular trips/activities

- ▶ We are always looking for opportunities to enhance the study of English Literature outside of the classroom. Some examples of recent trips/activities include...

A *Dracula* themed visit to Whitby Abbey, followed by a stop off at the Bronte Parsonage in Haworth



A visit to The Showroom to watch The National Theatre's *Hamlet*



A trip to Stratford-upon-Avon to watch the Royal Shakespeare Company's *King Lear*



Watching the "Stage on Screen" live stream of The National Theatre's *A Streetcar named Desire* at the Showroom



Interested in some wider reading?

