

**SUBJECT:** GCE A-Level English Language and Literature      **YEAR:** 12 and 13

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:** Miss H Duncan

**GROUPING POLICY:**

Students are taught in mixed ability sets. However, all students have met the entry criteria for the course, achieving at least a grade 6 at GCSE English Language and English Literature.

**COURSE CONTENT**

Examination board: Edexcel

Website link to specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/English%20Language%20and%20Literature/2015/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/A-level-EnglishLangLit-Spec.PDF>

**What will my child learn?**

Over the two years of the course, students will focus on:

- Constructing focused, coherent discussions of texts
- Exploring themes in a range of texts
- Analysing texts through both literary and linguistic approaches
- Understanding language change
- How texts can convey the attitudes and values of writers

**Component 1: Voices in Speeches and Writing**

Students study:

- Voices in Speech and Writing, An Anthology – non-literary and digital texts from the 20th and 21st centuries
- One drama text

**Component 2: Varieties in Language and Literature**

Students study two texts from a selected theme:

- one compulsory prose fiction text
- one other literary text

**Component 3: Coursework**

Students study:

- A free choice of topic and texts

**What will homework look like?**

Students will be given a reading list and will be expected to read widely throughout the course. Homework may often be note taking, preparing presentations, drafting coursework, or writing essay responses.

### What enrichment opportunities are available?

- Students will be encouraged to read widely and to discuss their increasing knowledge and love of literature
- Students will also be encouraged to read widely about literature, exploring critics' opinions, for example reading *The English Review*
- There are various opportunities for students to support the department and to promote reading within the school.

### ASSESSMENT

#### How will my child's work be assessed?

Details of the specific examinations are above.

When drafting coursework, students will have several opportunities to receive feedback on their work and to make improvements, before the final essays are submitted. There will be informal and formal assessment opportunities in the run up to the examination at the end of each stage of the course.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### How can I support my child in this subject?

Although the school is able to provide copies of core texts, students find it most useful to be able to annotate their own copies of texts in order to benefit most fully from class discussions.

Encourage your child's interest in literature by encouraging discussions about reading and literature at home and encouraging them to talk to you about the texts they are studying in school.

Students also often find visiting theatre productions inspiring and they can aid understanding of texts in performance

#### How can I support my child with exams?

Your son/daughter will need to be organised from the very beginning of the course, keeping records of their notes and their wider reading. Support with thorough preparation will help them to succeed in the course.

It is important students are able to write succinctly, but with full explanations, to achieve the best marks. Supporting them by proofreading their work for accuracy and timing them in their practice responses is always extremely useful.