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|  | <b>ENGLISH LITERATURE</b>            |         |
|  | <b>Qualification Level</b>           | A-level |
|  | <b>Exam Board/ Syllabus</b>          | Edexcel |
| <b>Contact(s)</b>  | Mr Gallagher, Mr John & Miss Gadsden |         |

### Why Study This Course?

Students studying English Literature will study a wide range of texts including drama, poetry, prose and Shakespeare. They will draw on skills from GCSE English Literature but deepen their understanding as they challenge themselves with some of the greatest literature from across the centuries.

### Course Content

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| Component 1: Drama - Open book exam of 2hr 15m, worth 30% of the overall assessment  |   |
| Tragedy  | Two Drama texts (including at least one pre-1900) and a "Shakespeare Critical Anthology": Current choices are: "Hamlet" by William Shakespeare & "A Streetcar Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams   |
| Component 2: Prose - Open book exam of 1hr 15m, worth 20% of the overall assessment  |   |
| Childhood  | Two Prose texts (including at least one pre-1900):<br>Current choices are Pre-1900: "What Maisie Knew" by Henry James & Post-1900: "Atonement" by Ian McEwan  |
| Component 3: Poetry - Open book exam of 2hr 15m, worth 30% of the overall assessment   |   |
| Poetry   | Two Poetry texts (including a named poet from a literary period):<br>Selection of specified modern poetry from "Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002-2011"<br>Current choice of named poet: "The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale" by Geoffrey Chaucer |
| Component 4: Coursework<br>Comparative essay marked internally and externally moderated, worth 20% of the overall assessment |   |
| Coursework   | Current choices: "Home Fire" by Kamilla Shamsie and a partner text from a selection guided by the teacher. Students are helped to identify their own specialised area of interest for in-depth study.   |

### **TRANSFERABLE SKILLS**

- Oral and written skills in effective communication and argument
- The ability to analyse and critically examine diverse forms of communication
- The ability to plan, negotiate and carry out individual and group projects/ presentations and to do so to deadlines
- The capacity for independent thought, reflection and judgement
- The ability to comprehend and develop intricate ideas, apply a variety of theoretical positions and weight the importance of alternative perspectives
- A working sense of the nuances and ambiguities of words and symbols
- Research skills, including the ability to gather, sift and organise quantities of diverse material and evaluate its significance

### Higher/Further Education & Career Links

The study of challenging ideas that are expressed in the most powerful language can benefit you in a wide range of fields. The skills developed include boosting your own written and spoken skills; enhancing your ability to empathise with and challenge the views of others; and honing your judgements when weighing up evidence and organising an analytical argument. English courses are thus relevant to media-based careers such as journalism, advertising and broadcasting, but also to fields as diverse as business or the law. Students intending to follow careers in science or medicine have found English complements their other studies and sharpens their communication and analytical skills. Find out more at [www.whystudyenglish.ac.uk](http://www.whystudyenglish.ac.uk).

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| Business & Innovation | <b>English</b> | Expressive Arts & Languages | Humanities | Mathematics | PE | Science |
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