

Sixth Form Subject Information

English Literature



Qualification	A Level English Literature	
Exam Board	AQA (7712: Spec A)	
Course Leader	Mr D Howell	
Course summary	The study of 'Love Through the Ages' and 'Texts in Shared Contexts'. Students are expected to explore themes and the ways in which writers shape meaning in poetry, plays and novels, making comparisons between texts from a range of historical periods.	
What will students learn?	A Level Literature Content	English Literature A encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying texts within a shared context enables students to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives. English Literature A allows students to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers, as they develop their own informed personal responses. Students are expected to express personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology. They also analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts, use literary criticism and make connections.
How will students be assessed?	Exam and Coursework	Exam (Paper1) 3 hours (Section C - open book) and worth 40% of A Level. One Shakespeare question, one unseen poetry response and one question comparing texts. Exam (Paper 2) 2 hours and 30 minutes (Open book), worth 40% of A Level marks. One question on set text, one question on an unseen extract and one question linking two texts. Non Exam Assessment (coursework), worth 20% of A Level marks – independent study (2500 words) comparing two texts.
Differentiation	Students are given a selection of tasks based on exam texts. We encourage students to work independently and prepare much of the analysis of texts themselves. There is also the opportunity to work in small groups. One text for Non Exam Assessment is chosen by the student.	
Resources	Current Texts	'The Great Gatsby', 'Othello', AQA Poetry Anthology (pre 1900), texts linked to WW1 and its Aftermath or post-1945 depending on option selected, independently selected coursework text and a range of wider reading extracts. Students will research critical opinions on-line and in print.