

## **ENGLISH LITERATURE AS AND A LEVEL**

Awarding Body OCR H072/H472

English Literature is a popular and successful A Level subject, the principal aim of which is to encourage and develop students' love of Literature while developing their ability to become close, critical readers of texts, able to express their ideas through informed critical response. We cover a wide range of classic and modern texts in the three genres of prose, poetry and drama.

### **ENTRY TO THE COURSE**

English Literature GCSE: Grade 5

English Language GCSE: Grade 5

### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **AS Level**

There are two examined components and no non-examined assessment as AS Level. The first examined component focuses on Shakespeare and poetry pre-1900 and the second component explores literature post-1900, both drama and prose.

#### **A Level**

There are two examined components and one non-exam assessment component. The two exams are equally weighted. The first exam component, 'Drama and poetry pre-1900', offers students the opportunity to engage in close reading and pay attention to Shakespeare's use of language. In section 1, students will answer a two-part question: the first part will focus on an extract from their chosen Shakespeare play (enabling us to elicit close textual analysis despite this being a closed text exam) and the second part will be an essay question which will assess their wider knowledge of the play as a whole.

In the second section of this exam students apply a combination of one drama text and one poetry text to a set of non-text specific but literary questions. The second component, 'Comparative and contextual study'. Consists of a close reading (unseen) exercise and a comparative essay. The paper will be split into different topic areas. For the first part of this exam, student will approach an unseen prose extract from within their chosen topic area. The second part of the exam will offer students a choice of three questions of which they must answer one question on the set texts they have studied in their chosen topic area.

The non-exam assessment component requires students to study three texts from across the genres of poetry, dram and prose. Task one offers a choice between a critical piece or a recreative piece with a 'linked texts' essay focusing on connections between two texts.

### **CAREERS/FURTHER EDUCATION**

The above qualities enable students to gain a qualification which opens many doors in employment and higher education. It is of particular use to students intending to follow an arts course (including Law) at university, or college, or to anyone intending to pursue a career in teaching, journalism, the media or performing arts.