

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Examination Board: AQA

### Why study English Literature?

A Level English Literature is an inspiring and challenging course. At its heart are some of the most interesting books and writers in the English language. Engagement is necessary, opinions are expected, and the level of debate will be consistently high. That's where you come in...The poet, Derek Walcott, once said "The English language is nobody's special property. It is the property of the imagination: it is the property of the language itself." Curious to see where a journey into the imagination will take you? Get your ticket and hop on board!

### Where does it lead?

English Literature A Level leads to places on top courses at the country's best universities. Regardless of the degree course you apply for, A Level English Literature opens doors and shows universities that you can both think and write in a conceptual, academic way.

English Literature students go on to become lawyers, consultants, journalists, advertising executives, teachers, lecturers and much more besides.



Words, words were truly alive on the tongue, in the head, warm, beating, frantic, winged."

Carol Anne Duffy (Poet Laureate)

*(Opened our refurbished Learning Resource Centre in 2012)*

### Course Content

#### Literary Genres

In this unit, you will study texts connected through a mainstream literary genre: Tragedy. Looking at texts from this perspective cuts straight to the root of what Literature is. Texts in this unit have been selected and grouped together because they share some of the common features of traditional tragic literature while also offering some interesting variations.

#### Texts and Genres

This module builds on the aforementioned Literary Genres, and brings your study of Literature right up to date, exploring Social Protest. This unit explores how texts and authors influence and are influenced by social and political debates. You will come away from these texts with a vigorous understanding of their importance.

#### Theory and Independence (NEA Assessment)

We always ask that Literature students read as widely as possible, and this component allows you to choose your own texts and to apply different theoretical and critical methods to them. This area of the course provides a challenging and wide-ranging opportunity for an introduction to different ways of reading texts and for independent study.

### Course Assessment

There are two examinations at the end of the course, one for each of the first two modules described above and each paper contributes **40%** to the A Level.

Additionally, there is the non-exam assessment (NEA) module, contributing **20%** to the A Level.

**For further information, please contact Mrs Francis or Mr Elliott**