

English Language and English Literature Examination Board: AQA

In Key Stage 4 English, pupils will study for two GCSEs, following a GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature pathway.

What is the course like?

Both qualifications are rigorous, thought-provoking programmes of study that draw from traditional and modern texts to give pupils a rounded appreciation of words and language in all their guises. Pupils will emerge from the two-year course with two separate GCSEs.

What is studied during the course?

The simple answer is... everything! From Avon's Bard to online blogs, contemporary news articles to a poet's pentameters, there is almost nothing which doesn't fall into the study of English Language and Literature! Texts for Literature will include prose, drama, and poetry from a variety of time periods, including the 19th Century and works by the Romantic poets – thought to be radical and ground-breaking in their own time and this will be supplemented by the study of non-fiction from across the history of the English language. Throughout both courses, pupils will learn to analyse writer's choices with skill and precision and to exploit them in their own creative writing, crafting their own compositions for a variety of audiences and purposes.

There is also a Spoken Language component to the course, requiring pupils to plan a presentation on a topic of their choice, deliver it to a group and respond to questions from their audience.

How is the course assessed?

All English Language and English Literature GCSEs will be assessed by terminal exams. Pupils will be prepared for these in class throughout the two-year course through a varied programme of creative and reflective tasks based around their set exam texts and unseen materials, providing practice and resilience in building exam skills. There will be regular assessments throughout the course, and, in June of Year 11, there are two terminal exams in English Language - totalling 3.5 hours - and two terminal exams in English Literature - totalling 4 hours. These exams will account for 100% of pupils' overall grade.



Alongside this, our pupils' Spoken Language skills will be assessed through a presentation and graded as a Distinction, Merit, Pass or Not Classified. This will be reported alongside the final GCSE grade.

For further information, please contact Mrs Francis or Miss Thompson.