



Head of subject:

Miss L Wilkins

Minimum entry requirements:

**Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature
and preferably English Language**

English Literature

What will you study?

You will study a selection of prose, poetry and drama texts from a range of different periods. The focus will be the development of critical skills and understanding of the contexts in which texts are produced together with consideration of a variety of possible interpretations of them. You will learn to compare texts which are thematically linked and gain confidence in your use of literary and critical concepts. In addition, you will be given the tools to enable you to respond with assurance to texts which are previously unseen. You will develop research skills through an independent, extended comparative study where you will foster an appreciation of cultural and contextual influences upon readers and writers.

How will you be assessed during the course?

You will be assessed in three different ways.

1. Love Through the Ages. This is a three hour examination and constitutes 40% of your A-level. For this examination you will complete an hour long paper on 'Othello' by William Shakespeare; an hour long paper in which you compare two unseen poems; and an hour long paper in which you study and compare poems from the AQA Poetry Anthology with 'Rebecca' by Daphne du Maurier. You will study this paper throughout Year 12 and your transition examination at the end of Year 12 will be a Love through the Ages three hour examination.
2. Texts in Shared Contexts (The First World War). This two hour 30 minute paper is 40% of your A-level. For this examination you will complete a 50 minute paper on 'Journey's End' by R. C. Sherriff; a 50 minute paper on unseen prose; and a 50 minute paper that compares the war poetry of Wilfred Owen with 'The First Casualty' by Ben Elton. You will begin studying this topic after the transition examination in Year 12 and will continue studying for this paper throughout Year 13.
3. Non-Examination Assessment: The Gothic. This 2,500 word coursework essay is 20% of your A-level. This is a really exciting opportunity to complete undergraduate level work while still in a school setting. You will have to read and select the gothic texts you wish to study and will also need to set your own title. You will begin working on the NEA after your transition examination and will submit the final NEA draft midway through Year 13.

Where will this course lead?

An A level in English Literature is a prestigious A level as it proves an ability to communicate clearly and concisely as well as select evidence and information to create original arguments. As such, the A level is valued in numerous degrees and professions where intelligent communication and deductions are needed: medicine, law, teaching, personnel, administration, the creative arts, the media and public relations to name but a few.

Further information

There are extension and support session that run on a Wednesday lunchtime.

Examination Board

AQA English Literature specification A.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-a-7711-7712>