

English Literature

Examination Board: AQA Specification A

Why study English Literature?

English Literature is an absorbing subject that enables you to experience the world and its many cultural variations through a range of thought-provoking texts from across the ages. As well as exploring controversial and stimulating subject matter, you will enhance your ability to deconstruct challenging texts and apply a range of critical perspectives to them, drawing on the readings of influential critics. English Literature is not just a subject in its own right; it develops highly valued skills for other subjects, making it a University admissions team's favourite! By studying Literature at A Level, you will develop comprehensive written and spoken communication skills and become adept at developing reasoned argument, whilst uncovering layers of meaning and appreciating the power of the written and spoken word.

Studying Literature will help you gain entry to a huge number of student courses and career paths, but is especially useful for courses or careers in Creative Writing, Journalism, Drama, Media Studies, Marketing and Advertising, Business Studies, History and Publishing, to name a few.

Exams will be terminal and all will be taken at the end of the two year course of study. There is no AS option at Oswestry School.

Entry Requirements

Whilst there is no specific requirement, students who do not gain a B grade or higher at GCSE in Literature and Language, will find this course very challenging.

Course Content

Over the two years, we will study the following:

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

A Shakespeare play

Unseen poetry

A core prose and poetry anthology which must be compared

Paper 2: Texts in Shared Contexts

A core poetry text

An unseen prose text

A modern or post-modern novel and play which must be compared

Paper 3: Independent Critical Study

Comparative study of two texts as coursework. 2,500 word essay.

Further Information

Students or parents requiring any further details are most welcome to contact Mrs R Huish, Head of English (ryh@oswestryschool.org.uk).

