

# English Literature: A-level (Awarding Body AQA)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in both English Language and English Literature are minimum requirements; students with Grade 5 may be considered, with the support of their English teacher.

## CONTENT

### Paper 1: Love through the Ages

Section A: Shakespeare

One passage-based question with linked essay - *Othello*

Section B: Unseen poetry

Compulsory essay question on two unseen poems

Section C: Comparing texts

One essay question linking two texts - *Jane Eyre* and the *AQA Anthology: love poetry through the ages*

### Paper 2: WW1 and its aftermath

Section A: Set texts - Drama

One essay question on a set text - *Journey's End*

Section B: Contextual linking - Poetry and Prose

- One compulsory question on an unseen extract

- One essay question linking two texts - *Life*

*Class* and a selection of poems by *Wilfred Owen*

### Non-Examination Assessment

Comparative critical study

One extended comparative critical study of 2500 words, referring to two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900. Texts may include poetry, prose and drama and are chosen by your class teachers.

## PROGRESSION

Students may progress to a number of careers, including Advertising, Media, Journalism, Publishing, Law, Teaching and Management.

## GENERAL COMMENTS

English Literature is the ideal choice of A-level for someone who enjoys reading and talking about literature. Lessons are discussion-based and require students to share and develop informed personal responses and criticism of literary texts. The department regularly runs visits to theatres in order to give students the opportunity to see performances of plays they are studying. English Literature is a long-established, academically-rigorous qualification which is highly regarded by the competitive Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.



I have found A-level English Literature to be an expansive and thought provoking subject. It has enabled me to pursue my passion by exploring prose, drama and poetry. During lessons, we are encouraged to contribute sophisticated analysis to group discussions, meaning that my interpretations of our set texts are constantly growing and evolving. We also think holistically about contextual factors, looking at how this alters the perception of a text and making links to modern society. Considering texts in such detail has taught me to read closely and with a greater awareness of literature in general.

I chose A-level English Literature as I plan to study the subject at university with the hope to seek a career in editing and publishing or teaching.

FLORENCE HALL

