

Years 10 & 11  
**ENGLISH at GCSE**

**A Description of the Course**

English is compulsory for all students, and leads to two separate GCSEs – English Language and English Literature. You will take examinations in AQA English Language GCSE 9-1 and CIE English Literature IGCSE. You will continue to develop your original writing, and to read works of poetry, prose and drama, including Shakespeare.

**English Language** – You will study a range of short fiction texts and non-fiction texts written from 19C onwards. You will also have to write in a variety of ways: description, narrative and to explain a point of view.

**English Literature** – You will study three set texts: a play by Shakespeare, a novel and some poetry. You will be examined on all three set texts. In addition you will produce two pieces of analytical coursework on literature.

**Benefits of the Course**

Every career uses English skills – you will always have to communicate effectively in speech and writing, whatever you do.

Particular areas of further study that 'A' level English students have followed include law, P.P.E., the media (such as journalism), TV, radio, advertising, or more diverse areas such as business management, education, philosophy, even artificial intelligence, as well as more specific English subjects, including Linguistics. We have even had medics take English at 'A' level as a demanding text-based subject, to show intellectual range.

**What are the Coursework Requirements?**

**English Language GCSE** is 100% examination + a separately accredited Speaking and Listening test

**English Literature IGCSE** (coursework element 25%): two literary essays, one of which is likely to be an essay on the set Shakespeare text.

**Which Exam Board and Specification?**

English Language AQA GCSE 9-1

English Literature Cambridge IGCSE 0486

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

English Language: - **100% Examination (2 papers)**

English Literature: - **75% examination (1 paper); 25% coursework**