



Why study English Literature at Formby High School?

English Literature is a relatively new and exciting addition to our English subject choices for sixth form students. This A Level is an ideal choice for anyone who loves reading and is interested in the big questions regarding human experience. It is also a highly respected A Level that can be instrumental in helping students gain university places in a variety of subjects. Students will gain a great deal of academic prowess as they are taught to think analytically, consider different interpretations and listen and respond to one another sensitively. One of the most important skills they will develop is how to write coherently and critically.

Last year's cohort achieved 100% A*-C grades.

The feedback from students is that our lessons are well planned, innovative and enjoyable. Students work in an extremely positive classroom environment which enables lively and penetrating discussion. Work is quickly and efficiently marked and always gives clear and detailed guidance for improvement. Prospective Oxbridge candidates are prepared for their personal statements and interviews from early in the first term of Sixth Form.

What does the course involve?

The course will offer you the chance to study a rich variety of literature from different time periods. The texts are stimulating and interesting and there is the opportunity for you to develop your own interests and to bring your own creative and independent skills to the tasks.

The course will give you the opportunity to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying texts within a shared context will enable you to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives. In this way you are encouraged to challenge the interpretations of other readers as you develop your own informed personal responses.

You will study prose, poetry and drama texts including Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire', Bronte's 'Wuthering Heights' and Hosseini's 'A Thousand Splendid Suns'. You will also study a range of poetry written post-2000 and the Romantic poets. In Year 13 you will undertake an independent critical study of two texts linked by theme, movement,

author or period in order to produce an extended essay.

The A Level course will be assessed through three examinations (two of 2 hours and 15 mins and one of 1 hour) which combined are worth 80% of the marks, plus a coursework portfolio worth 20% of the marks.

What can the qualification lead to?

There is a wide range of possible career and higher education opportunities. You will learn and use a variety of transferable skills in speaking and analytical writing. The course will form a good basis for study in any future pathway – the Arts, the Humanities, Law and the Sciences.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade 6 in GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Which other subjects complement English Literature?

- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Film Studies
- Geography
- History

- Music
- Religious Studies

Student Viewpoint



"Studying English Literature at A Level has been a revelation. I thoroughly enjoy the course and the opportunity to explore a wide range of different texts. I have also been able to develop key skills of analysis which are applicable to the other subjects I am studying. Although it is demanding, the teachers provide reassurance and assistance whenever it is required. This course has provided me with both confidence and a good knowledge of a broad range of literary texts."