



# ENGLISH IN THE SIXTH FORM

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## OUR DEPARTMENT AIMS ARE:

to encourage a love of reading widely and deeply by stressing the central importance of literature; to develop young people's awareness of language and their ability to use it effectively; to encourage students to become increasingly sophisticated in their understanding of, and response to, literature; to develop articulate and confident speakers and sensitive listeners; to provide academic challenge and encourage independence for all our students; to equip students with the skills required to make a success of their subsequent careers and future studies.

## A LEVEL

For A Level we follow the Edexcel English Literature course, and study a range of texts including classical and modern literature. The literature we study covers all three genres of poetry, prose and drama and ranges in date from the 1380s to works published since 2000.

Component 1: Drama - students study a Shakespeare play and an anthology of critical essays about that play to read, consider and discuss in class and in essays. In addition, there is another play of the teacher's choice

Component 2: two prose texts from a chosen theme, with at least one text pre 1900.

Component 3: an anthology of post 2000 poetry, and a group of poems linked in some way from a certain form, period or poet.

Component 4: Students also write an independent coursework essay, comparing two texts of their choice and focusing on an area of interest to them.

We make full use of the library, a welcoming environment for reading and study, well-equipped with computers, periodicals, newspapers and DVDs, as well as books and critical articles specifically ordered to support our text choices. Each student is given a suggested reading list. Our expectations are high – we assume our students are reading all the time!

## RECOMMENDED ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

We suggest Level 7 or above for both English Language and Literature I/GCSE.

## CO-CURRICULAR

We plan theatrical and workshop activities every year. Recent and upcoming activities have included:

- An evening with Simon Armitage, Poet Laureate, listening to readings and discussion of his poetry
- A trip to see 'Dr Faustus' at the Sam Wannamaker Theatre
- A visit to Chawton House and the Jane Austen House Museum
- Lecture Days in London to help prepare and revise for the final examinations
- Recommendations for events in the Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Chiddingstone Literary Festivals, such as talks on Elizabeth I and Mary Stuart
- A monthly Staff and Sixth Form Reading Group

## A LEVEL RESULTS 2019

GRADE	A*	A	B	C	D
	16%	37%	26%	16%	5%
English Literature	3	7	5	3	1

