

Course title: English Literature A Level AQA

Academic year:	2026
Course Venue:	King Edwards VI High School
Course Type:	A level
Duration:	2 years

Course Description: English Literature encompasses a very broad range of texts and ideas. It offers students an opportunity to hone their skills of analysis and argument, as well as challenging them to question their own ideas and those of others. You will bring your own passion for literature and enjoyment of the subject to your studies.

Course Content: Study of poetry, prose and drama on the linked themes of 'Love through the Ages' and 'Modern Literature 1945-Present'. Six whole texts and a variety of prose and poetry extracts are studied. In addition to the two externally assessed exams students will also complete a 2500-word independent study, critically comparing two texts.

Entry requirements: The standard entry criteria to study in the sixth form is Grades 9-4 in at least seven different subjects, including English and Mathematics, which would usually be at Grade 4 or above. To study other subjects already taken at GCSE you must achieve at least a grade 5 or above in that subject.

Assessment:

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages

- Study of a Shakespeare text, looking particularly at its reception over time and alternative interpretations;
- Unseen poetry comparison;
- Comparison of a modern novel with a collection of pre-1900 poetry.

Paper 2: Modern Literature 1945-present

- Study of a modern collection of poetry;
- Analysis of a prose extract from a post-1945 text;
- Comparison of a drama and prose text from post-1945.

Non-Examined assessment: 20% of the course and a comparison between two texts.

Financial Information: Students will be asked to buy copies of the set texts. Theatre visits and trips take place during the course.

Future opportunities: English Literature is highly-regarded by both universities and employers, who recognise students who have studied the subject, are articulate, fluent thinkers able to discuss and debate issues. Students can progress to university and then to careers in teaching, journalism, the media, law, marketing and corporate business.

The course will also help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for. Specific careers such as those in law, journalism, media, teaching and publishing would directly benefit from studying A Level Literature.

Further information: To find out more, contact Mrs Sedgley-Chiles sedgley-chiles.j@kevi.org.uk