

A-level English Language

Below you will find some information regarding the A-level English Language course.

What is covered?

As part of this course you will study:

- Language, the individual and society - you will critically analyse two unseen texts from different periods, and produce a discursive essay on children's language development. This is a two hour 30 minute exam and is worth 40% of the A-level.
- Language, diversity and change - you will produce one evaluative essay followed by a critical analysis of how an unseen text uses language in a specific way. You will then use this to create a piece of your own original writing. This is a two hour 30 minute exam and is worth 40% of the A-level.
- Language in action - you will produce a 2,000 word language investigation in an area of language study which interests you, and a 1,500 word piece of original writing and commentary. This is the coursework element of the A-level and is worth 20%.

What does the course involve?

English Language is an excellent way to develop your thinking and analytical skills. Through this course you will understand how language is used and the impact it has on society. It is an enjoyable and interesting course. However, it is important to recognise that it does involve a significant level of essay writing, and you need to be prepared to learn a number of technical terms and apply these in your writing.

The English Language A-level will open doors into thinking about and investigating language in completely new and different ways to anything you experienced at GCSE. It will give you the opportunity to explore a wide range of topic areas of both contemporary and older non-literary texts. You will learn about the technical terms for the techniques used, and apply these in your own writing.

Quick course facts

You should have a minimum of five GCSEs graded at level 4 or above, including Mathematics and a level 5 or above in English.

This A-level develops critical thinking and writing skills.

If you are thinking of doing English Language or Linguistics at university then this course is essential.

There are opportunities to attend special study and enrichment days.

A challenging yet rewarding A-level, which combines the scientific study of language and creative approaches to language.

