# A Level English Literature AQA A



# Why study English Literature?

English Literature at A Level is one of the most important, fulfilling, and enjoyable courses on the curriculum. Our students do very well and take home grades they will be proud of for a lifetime. But more than this, our students learn to communicate, to enquire, to explore and to challenge the world around them via a journey through some of the greatest texts ever written. We believe in the potential of our students to succeed and thrive in their study of English. We offer a rich and exciting course that will provide students with the tangible skills required to function in an ever-changing world. We will ensure our students are encouraged to express themselves creatively and we will celebrate their identity.

About the course

This two-year course provides a variety of opportunities to explore literature. The idea of the course is to read texts within a shared context, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives. The course encourages students to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as they develop their own informed personal responses.

#### Year 12

In Year 12 we study the part of the course called 'Love through the Ages' and explore set texts in Shakespeare; pre-1900s poetry and post-1900 prose, as well as exposing students to a wide range of unseen poetry. Whilst there is no external exam here, students will sit a rigorous internal exam at the end of the year.

#### Year 13

In Year 13 we move on to 'WW1 and its aftermath' and look at a modern prose text, a drama and another poetry anthology. Wider reading is essential for this course, and we work with students to help them analyse and critique a wide range of unseen prose. At the same time, students are expected to revisit and recap Year 12 content.

### **Assessment**

Two written exams at the end of Year 13: 40% - Paper 1: Love through the Ages: 3 hours 40% - Paper 2: WW1 and its aftermath: 2.5 hours 20% NEA: One extended essay (2500 words) and a bibliography

## **Entry criteria**

A grade 6 at GCSE English Language, and 4 other passes at grade 5 in other subjects (including English Lang).

## Outside the classroom

The successful grades in English literature at Newquay Tretherras is down to the students' desire to succeed, their love for the subject that develops over the course, and their commitment to progressing. Added to this are dedicated

staff who have superb subject knowledge and keep the students' success at the centre of all they do. Staff are available after school and in lunch times and work with small groups of students, often offering one-to-one sessions, to ensure students are motivated and progress rapidly. Nowhere do the students fall more in love with literature when they can see it and feel it. As such, we aim to take the students on a variety of theatre trips, and we often welcome guest writers and poets in to work with our students. We have arranged for students to be guests at Cambridge University, even having sample lectures in a variety of English courses and many of our students choose to study English at degree level and beyond. Most important is that students read – read and immerse themselves in relevant literature that will both challenge and enthral.

## Find out more

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-a-7711-7712



