

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

What qualification does this course lead to?

There are two qualifications:

- GCSE English Language – Eduqas exam board
- GCSE English Literature – AQA exam board

All pupils at Carr Hill will follow a joint programme of study and the vast majority will be entered for both qualifications at the end of two years. They are exam only – there will be no coursework or controlled assessments.

What topics will I study?

You will study Language and Literature side by side and the skills are transferrable.

You will study several texts during the course, including:

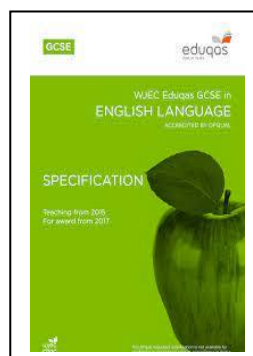
Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'

'A Christmas Carol'

'Blood Brothers'

A variety of poetry including the 'Power and Conflict' anthology

Non-fiction and literary fiction texts from different centuries



What understanding and skills will I develop?

By the end of your course, you will have developed your skills in evaluating the impact of literature and written language. You will be able to explain and evaluate how writers achieve particular effects and engage their audience. Through developing the skills to respond to texts critically, sensitively and in detail, you will consider different approaches to texts and alternative interpretations. You will be able to compare and contrast texts and relate to social, cultural, historical contexts and literary traditions.

Both orally and in writing, you will be able to write to communicate effectively and imaginatively, selecting vocabulary appropriate to task and purpose in ways which engage the reader. Both GCSEs have a substantial focus on writing in clear and accurate Standard English. There is a great emphasis on spelling, punctuation and grammar including the use of ambitious vocabulary.

How will I learn/how will I be taught?

You will be taught to analyse how language is used in different contexts and adapted to suit different audiences. You will analyse a variety of texts and how to then emulate those styles in your writing.

In your study of English Literature, you will be taught how to select suitable ways to convey a response using textual evidence where appropriate. You will be shown how to explore language, structure and form and how these contribute to the meanings of the texts. You will learn how to select and evaluate material.

You will also participate in Speaking and Listening tasks and be assessed on presentation, responding to questions and use of Standard English. This part of the course is marked by the teacher and is separately endorsed (0% of the GCSE).

How will I be assessed?

English Language - you will be assessed through two papers.

- One 1 hour 45 minute exam paper: Reading and responding to 1 unseen literary fiction text then narrative writing. This is worth 40% of the overall mark.
- One 2 hour exam paper: Reading and responding to 2 unseen non-fiction texts, then writing 2 pieces of transactional texts to express a viewpoint (a letter/review/report/article/speech). This is worth 60% of the overall mark.

GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement. This endorsement will be reported as a separate grade on their GCSE certificate (Pass, Merit, Distinction or Not Classified) and will not contribute to the result of the GCSE English Language qualification.

English Literature - you will be assessed through:

- One 1 hour 45 minute exam paper ('Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol') worth 40% of the overall mark.
- One 2 hour 15 minute exam paper ('Blood Brothers', a poetry anthology made up of 15 poems on the theme of power and conflict and finally, unseen poetry) worth 60% of the overall mark.

What can this course lead to?

English is a vitally important subject in your education. Developing your skills in English to gain the best possible grade is vital for progress into further education or a career. The skills you learn will improve the work you do in all subjects.

English Literature encourages pupils to develop a lifelong love of literature. You will gain an understanding of how writers convey their ideas to the audience. The study of English Language and Literature can lead to further study at A level or degree level.

Who do I need to contact for more information?

Mrs M. Aspden, Head of Faculty
Mrs K. Gardner, Assistant Head of Faculty