ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAM BOARD: AQA

80% EXAM X 2 PAPERS | 20% INTERNALLY ASSESSED

Why study English Literature?

At Stratford upon Avon School, we recognise the potential for literature to enrich the lives of everyone. We can offer you a rewarding experience with a wealth of support from expert teaching staff; varied, stimulating resources; opportunities to pursue your own areas of expertise and interest; a supportive classroom environment where sophisticated, individual interpretations are encouraged and rewarded; and a varied programme of enrichment opportunities.



Subject Specification Outline:

LOVE THROUGH THE AGES
The study of prose, poetry and a Shakespeare play. The range of texts allows you to explore representations of love by a variety of writers over time.

INDEPENDENT CRITICAL STUDY
This is a challenging and wide-ranging opportunity for university-style independent study. Under guidance, you will complete a comparative critical study of two texts on a theme of your choice.

TEXTS IN SHARED CONTEXTS
The study of modern literature from 1945, which encourages you to reflect on the changes to literature post-World War 2. Includes the modern classic drama 'A Streetcar Named Desire'

Progress Assessment:

Regular, structured exam-style assessments in preparation for two final examinations. Ongoing ½ termly assessment. The independent critical study accounts for 20% of the overall grade and is internally assessed. You will receive written and oral feedback throughout the drafting process.

Final Exam Format:

Paper 1: Love Through The Ages	Paper 2: Texts in Shared Contexts
3hrs 40% Open book in Section C	2.5hrs 40% Open book

Non-exam assessment:

Extended essay of 2500 words and a bibliography
20% of A-Level, assessed by teachers, moderated by AQA

Self Study Requirements:

- Research particular authors and contexts
- Research different literary movements
- Read a wide breadth of authors & prepare mini-presentations on them
- Complete plans for exercise questions
- Complete regular practise questions
- Consolidate learning by student mentoring

Progression Pathways:

A-Level English Literature is a multidisciplinary course of study which affords you opportunities to develop and demonstrate a wide range of study and life skills. You will be encouraged to become perceptive, independent critical readers and thinkers with the skills to communicate complex ideas in both speech and writing. Argumentative skills will be crucial, as will a high level of technical accuracy in written work. In short, this qualification is highly valued by universities and employers.

Our students, beyond Stratford: our 2026 A-Level English Literature students have gone onto study Media & Communication, Braodcast Journalism, English Literature with Creative Writing, Primary Education, Film Production, Business Management and Marketing & Management at the universities of Liverpool, East Anglia UEA, Loughborough, Salford and Leeds Beckett.