

Aims of the Course

- Explore the links between language and context
- Promote sophisticated communication skills
- Develop advanced analytical skills
- Allow students to develop their own areas of interest throughout the course.

Types of Learning Experience:

The course is designed to develop students as independent, critical thinkers. Content is delivered through a variety of different teaching and learning styles which will involve: seminars, group work, class discussion and independent research. Students will need to keep their own portfolio of texts and will be expected to conduct wider reading and research.

Link Subjects:

English Language may be taken with any other subject. It has strong links with Psychology, Sociology and Media and complements English Literature.

Progressing to Higher Education:

English Language is a stimulating subject which is directly relevant to life today. It is a recognised advanced level subject for entry into University and Higher Education.

Careers:

English is relevant to any student who wishes to demonstrate advanced communication and analytical skills. Students wishing to pursue careers in linguistics, education, journalism and media will find it particularly useful.

A LEVEL

(2 YEAR LINEAR COURSE)

Paper 1 - Language, the Individual and Society

40% of A Level
2 hour and 30 minutes exam

Textual varieties and representations: how language is used to create meanings in a variety of texts.
Writing skills: writing discursively on children's language development.

Paper 2 - Language Diversity and Change

40% of A Level
2 hour and 30 minutes exam

Diversity and change: an evaluative response to how language diversity has led to changes in language.
Language discourses: analysing how texts use language to present ideas, attitudes and opinions; and a directed writing task linked to these topics.

Non-exam Assessment - Language in Action

20% of A Level
3500 word coursework

An academic investigation into language use (2000 words).
A piece of original writing and commentary (1500 words total).

Entry requirements:

A minimum of 5 grades 9-4 at GCSE including English and Maths. A grade 5 or above in either English Language or English Literature is required.

