



NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL



ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE A LEVEL - OCR

Who is the course for?

Students who take this course have an enthusiasm for reading and enjoy studying literature, but also enjoy studying linguistic terminology and studying non-literary texts. They want to develop a deep understanding of how language works. Our students enjoy writing and producing creative writing and non-fiction texts as a way to understand how writers craft their writing.

What can it lead to?

A Level English Language and Literature provides an excellent foundation for degree courses in English, the Arts, Humanities, Politics, Law and Media. It is essential in leading to a career in writing and journalism, but can also lead to careers in management and administration, public relations, teaching, law, publishing and the media. Universities value applicants who take A-level English because they have developed core skills of interpretation, evaluation and expression.

What are the entry requirements?

Minimum grade 5 and at least one grade 6 in English GCSE, either English Language or Literature.

What will I study?

This demanding A level course integrates the study of language and literature – both spoken and written – and will enable you to develop your analytical and creative writing skills. You will study poetry, drama and prose texts as well as a collection of non-fiction texts in an anthology. Additionally, you will develop your original and creative writing talents, and strengthen your evaluative skills. This is a demanding A level that allows you to explore both Language and Literature, and hone your craft as a creative writer.

How will I be assessed?

A Level: 20% coursework and 80% exam
We follow the **OCR new specification** which is supported by the English and Media Centre. Texts currently studied at Nower Hill are as below:

A Level Component 1 (Non-fiction spoken and written texts)

- Question focused on comparison of non-fiction text to one from the non-fiction anthology

A Level Component 2 (The language of poetry and plays)

- Eavon Boland Collected Poems
- Tennessee Williams Streetcar Named Desire

A Level Component 3 (Reading as a Writer, Writing as a Reader)

- F. Scott Fitzgerald's 'The Great Gatsby'
- Fiction creative writing and accompanying commentary.

A Level Component 4 (non-exam assessment – 20%)

- Comparative analytical study to include the study of 'In Cold Blood', and a creative writing piece totaling 3,000 words.

How will I be taught?

Class teaching, group work, personal investigations, discussion, research and presentations, and individual coursework tutorials.

What equipment or materials do I need?

Core texts, textbook, stationery and a voracious appetite for reading.

Are there any other costs?

Theatre trips and study days when available. Supplementary reading material is essential to read widely around the texts you are studying. We do have an excellently stocked library and a 6th Form English library, so this does not need to be an additional expense.

