

Nower Hill 6th Form:

*Inspiration, excellence,
opportunity - a confident future*

ENGLISH LITERATURE A Level



Who is the course for?

Students with an enthusiasm for reading and studying English Literature with a focus on interpretation.

What can it lead to?

A Level English Literature provides a good foundation for degree courses in English, the Arts, Humanities, Law and Media. It can also lead to careers in writing, journalism, management and administration, teaching, law, publishing and the media. English degrees can lead to careers in anything and everything!

What are the entry requirements?

At least a grade 6 in English Literature at GCSE and at least a grade 5 in English Language.

What will I Study?

You will read, discuss, research and write about a range of texts including novels, drama and poetry. These range from 1300 to post 1990 and include one Shakespeare play. There is a strong focus on critical literary skills, contexts and interpretations by other readers. You will be introduced to literary theory and begin to read criticism in order to evaluate texts fully. You will learn how to construct an argument and to use textual reference to support your views. Texts taught change regularly, but this year texts include: *Hamlet*, *The Bloody Chamber*, *A Doll's House*, *Dracula* and a collection of Rossetti poems. This A level strengthens your evaluative and analytical skills and encourages thematic and intertextual study.

How will I be assessed?

A Level: 20% coursework and 80% exams

We follow the **OCR new specification** and texts currently studied at Nower Hill are as below:

A Level Component 1 (Shakespeare and pre-1900 poetry)

- Shakespeare's *Hamlet*
- Poetry of Christina Rossetti compared with a pre-1900 drama text *A Doll's House*

A Level Component 2 (Comparative and contextual study)

- Study of Angela Carter's *The Bloody Chamber* and another Gothic text *Dracula*.
- Study of the Gothic genre to prepare for an unseen extract.

A Level Component 3 (Literature post 1900) Coursework (20%)

- Two tasks totaling 3,000 words studying poetry, prose and drama.
- Texts studied include: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *TS Eliot* and *The Road*.

How will I be taught?

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

What equipment or materials will 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 so this does not need to be an additional expense.