

Roundwood Park  
School  
English Department  
Post 16 Information



# Why Study English Literature?

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- Studying Literature allows you to engage with what it is to be human
- It allows you to engage with a range of concepts and ideologies that relate to your other subjects
- You will develop your debating skills and engage with others respectfully and empathetically
- You will learn how to view texts from different perspectives and learn that there is always more than one way to explore something
- You will develop analysis skills, invaluable for whatever course or route you take in the future
- You learn how to structure essays effectively and articulate your ideas clearly
- Quality teaching from an experienced and passionate team

# What do I study?



## Component One: Poetry

This is split into two halves:

### **Section A: Poetry Pre 1900**

We study the poetry of Christina Rossetti

### **Section B: Poetry Post 1900**

We study and compare the work of Philip Larkin and Carol Ann Duffy.

# What do I study?



## Component Two: Drama

This is split into two halves:

### **Section A: Shakespeare**

We study *Hamlet* or *The Tempest*.

### **Section B: *Drama Pre and Post 1900***

We study and compare *The Duchess of Malfi* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

# What do I study?



## Component Three: Unseen Texts

This is split into two halves:

### **Section A: Prose**

We study literature from the period 1918 – 1939.

There is one question exploring the use of language in an unseen extract from this time period.

### **Section B: Unseen Poetry**

You will be given a choice of two poems and explore how they convey their ideas throughout.

# What do I study?



## Component Four: NEA Novel Study Pre and Post 2000

For this part of the course you get to:

Explore a text in depth

Select a partner text to compare with it

Plan and write an essay on a topic that you are interested in.

We start with the text *The Color Purple* as your pre 2000 text and build up from there.

# What are lessons like?

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A Level Literature lessons have a blend of:

- Class discussion
- Reading and analysing texts
- Exploring critical theory and critics' opinions and how they apply
- Learning how to plan essays and express yourself with an academic voice

# What do our students say?

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*“The texts are amazing and so engaging”*

*“The themes involved bring out passionate discussions.”*

*“I love that English opens up such interesting and important conversations between the class and teachers.”*

*“It is such a supportive environment”*

*“The classes are so much fun and the texts are far better than the ones at GCSE”*



# How is this going to benefit me?

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- Literature is viewed as a 'classic' A Level and considered as academically rigorous by universities
- You will have a wider understanding of the ways in which people express themselves and texts can express the mood of a generation
- You will learn how to problem solve, plan and approach a task in a creative way
- You will learn to think critically and form your own opinions
- Essay writing skills are always valuable!
- You will always have something interesting to say!
- Our students have gone on to apply and earn places at excellent universities!

# What skills do I need to have?

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- An enquiring mind and the desire to see the world in a different way
- A passion for and determination to acquire knowledge
- A commitment and responsibility for your own learning