GCSE English Literature

NORTHAMPTON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



What is English Literature?

Purpose:

- Develops critical thinking, creativity, and communication skills.
- Encourages **empathy** by understanding **diverse perspectives** through literature.

Subject-Specific Skills:

• Analysing writer's methods; understanding texts, characters, themes; crafting coherent essays.

Key Career Skills:

• Strong written and verbal communication; Analytical thinking and interpretation; Time management and structured writing.

Industries:

- Media and Journalism
- Publishing and Editing
- Law (legal writing, research, argumentation)
- Education (teaching English or Humanities)
- Public Relations and Marketing (content creation)
- Creative Industries (writing, scriptwriting, theatre).







Course Overview and Structure.

OCR English Literature Paper 1 (Two hours)

- (80 marks/50%)
- Closed Text
- Reading and responding to:
 - One studied modern prose or drama text, including making connections with a thematically linked unseen modern, same- genre extract.
 - One studied 19th century prose text.
- Exploring modern and literary heritage

OCR English Literature Paper 2 (Two hours)

- (80 marks/50%)
- Closed Text
- Reading and responding to:
 - One thematic poetry cluster from the OCR Poetry Anthology, including making connections with a thematically linked unseen poem.
 - \circ One studied Shakespeare play.
- Exploring poetry and Shakespeare.

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Assessment

English Literature is a **GCSE** award graded from 1-9. This consists of **two** examinations lasting two hours each.

- AO1 Understanding and interpretation
 - Read, understand, and respond to texts.
 - Maintain a critical style and develop a personal response.
 - Use textual references, including quotations, to support interpretations.
- AO2 Analysis of language, form, and structure
 - Analyse how writers use language, form, and structure to create meanings and effects.
 - Use relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
- AO3 Contextual understanding
 - Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.
- AO4 Technical accuracy (SPaG Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar)
 - Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose, and effect.
 - \circ \quad Use accurate spelling and punctuation.





GCSE (9-1)

Specification

ENGLISH LITERATURE

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Key Career Skills

Written and verbal communication
Analytical thinking
Literacy skills
Time management
Understanding and reasoning

Future career opportunities

Studying **English Literature** can lead to a career in:

- Media and Journalism
- Publishing and Editing
- Law (legal writing, research, argumentation)
- Education (teaching English or Humanities)
- Public Relations and Marketing (content creation)
- **Creative Industries** (writing, scriptwriting, theatre).



Future study opportunities

Studying English Literature can lead to further study in;

- Any relevant subject at Level 3 (A level), for example at NSG we offer:
 - A Level English Literature
 - A Level English Language and Literature
 - A Level English Language
 - A Level History
 - A Level Psychology
 - A Level Sociology

