



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Are you/do you...

Keen to become a skilled communicator who can adapt your language according to the situation you are in?
 Curious about how we learn language and use it differently depending on who we are?
 Interested in debating issues that arise from how language is used in society?

How will you be assessed?

The AS qualification requires you to take two exams at the end of Year 12, worth 50% each. To attain the full A-Level at the end of Year 13, you will take two exams, worth 40% each, and submit a coursework folder that accounts for 20% of your grade. The variety of assessment styles used, such as data analysis, discursive essays, directed writing, original writing and research-based investigative writing, allows you to develop a wide range of skills. These include critical reading, textual analysis, evaluation, the ability to develop and sustain arguments and a number of different writing skills which are invaluable for both further study and future employment.

What will I study?

Through applying linguistic frameworks and terminology to texts, you will be introduced to the ways in which English is used by individuals. You will learn how children acquire language and develop into skilled adult communicators who can adapt their speech and writing according to audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. You will focus on how language varies in its wider social and geographical contexts, considering how factors such as region, gender, class and occupation affect the way in which we converse. You will explore how and why language develops over time, and will study social attitudes to, and debates about, language diversity and change. Using the knowledge and skills you have developed, you will then independently research an area of the subject that particularly interests you, and will also develop and reflect upon your own writing expertise, by completing an academic investigation and a piece of original writing with an accompanying commentary.

How will this subject support my future plans?

One of the strengths of English Language is that it is relevant for a wide variety of careers and university courses. The analytical skills gained are useful for areas such as law or history, while the creative side of the course lends itself to journalism or advertising. More obviously, students are given a significant start towards studying English or Linguistics at university.

Entry requirements

A minimum of Grade C (or Grade 4 in the reformed subjects) in at least 5 GCSE subjects, including Mathematics. In addition, a minimum of a strong Grade 5 in English Language is required.

Belong

Grow

Succeed