

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Post 16 Subject Overview

Name of Subject - English Language

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

AQA

Why should I study this course?

This course leads to an A Level in English Language. It is an opportunity to understand how language works in a modern, up-to date setting. From the back of the bus ticket to tomorrow's best-selling novel and from the Prime Minister's speech on television last night to the conversation with a friend in the common room, English Language is about the study of live language in use. The course presents many opportunities for mini research projects, data collection and presentations. Particularly for those committed to English study at university, taking this course alongside A Level English Literature can be a powerful combination, giving you an impressive depth and breadth of understanding of all matters of English study. The course offers the opportunity to write a variety of texts and to be able to justify choice of language in a rigorous and systematic way. Much of the course is devoted to the analysis of language and how this can be applied to what we read, write and say in everyday life. You will learn how to analyse spoken language to learn about issues concerning the development of the English language and its use by particular groups. The course will also give you an understanding of how we develop language in childhood and also how English has evolved over time into the language we recognise today. Whilst some of the course is a progression from familiar aspects of GCSE English, much of the course will be new and challenging: a chance to gain an understanding of the science of linguistics.

Who is suitable to study this course?

As well as leading to further, degree level study, success in English Language demonstrates skills of accurate, subtle and sophisticated communication skills. These skills are in demand by employers in almost any field where effective communication is required.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?

English Language and English Literature, History, RS - any subject that develops essay writing skills or requires you to be thoughtful and consider the world around you.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

You are advised to have achieved a grade 5 or above in English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

How is the Course Delivered?

You will have two teachers, one for three hours per week and one for two hours per week. You will be expected to work independently, outside of lessons, for 2-3 hours per week.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	Paper 1: Introduction and Speech texts Paper 2: Idiolect and Sociolect	Paper 1: Child Language revision Paper 2: Ethnolect/ Global English NEA research and drafting- Original Writing
Autumn 2	Paper 1: Modern Written Texts and Electronic Texts Paper 2: Occupation and Dialect	NEA research and preparation - Investigation Paper 2: Language Change
Spring 1	Paper 1: Older Texts Paper 2: Dialect and Gender	Paper 1: Child Language revision Paper 2: Revision of Q3 and Opinion Articles
Spring 2	Paper 1: Revision of Paper 1 areas Paper 2: Directed writing and Revision of Paper 2 areas	NEA completion Revision
Summer 1	NEA research and preparation - Original Writing	Revision and exams
Summer 2	Paper 1: Child Language NEA research and preparation - Original Writing	Course completed

How is the Course Assessed?

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textual variations and representations• Children's language development (0-11 years) Assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes• 100 marks• 40% of A-level
Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language diversity and change• Language discourses• Writing skills Assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes• 100 marks• 40% of A-level
NEA: Language in Action	What's assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language Investigation• Original Writing Assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Word count: 3,500• 100 marks• 20% of A-level• Assessed by teachers• Moderated by AQA

What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study? - Researching the books mentioned above would be our first recommended step. Your teachers will share journals, articles, blogs and podcasts with you as supplementary reading and listening when studying the course texts.

