

St Patrick's Academy

GCSE Subject Choice

Subject Information for students

Subject: English Literature

What the subject is about

English Literature is a compulsory subject which provides you with the opportunity to build on the knowledge and skills that you have already attained in exploring texts, responding critically to these texts and relating the particular prose, poetry and drama to the appropriate social, cultural and historical background. You will study both classic and contemporary texts, and will make comparisons between texts.

Course content and assessment schedule

Unit	Duration	% of total	Content
1 <u>EXAM</u>	1½ hours	40%	<u>Exploring modern texts</u> Section A: Modern drama or prose Section B: Exploring cultures
2 <u>EXAM</u>	1 ¼ hours	35%	<u>Poetry across time</u> Section A: Poetry cluster from an anthology Section B: Responding to an unseen poem
3 <u>CA</u>	n/a	25%	<u>The significance of Shakespeare & the English Literary Heritage</u> Make links between a Shakespeare play and any other text, of any genre, from the English Literary Heritage.

Attributes needed to succeed in the course

If you have the ability to read, understand and respond to a range of literary texts then English literature at GCSE will help to develop your skills in this area. A study of literature will improve your appreciation of the ways in which authors achieve their effects, and it will develop the skills necessary for the study of essay-based A-level subjects in general, and of A-level English Literature in particular.