

ENGLISH LITERATURE

The English Department aims to encourage our pupils to develop their interest and enjoyment of literature and literacy studies as they:

- read widely and independently both set texts and others that they have selected for themselves;
- engage critically and creatively with a substantial body of texts and ways of responding to them;
- develop and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation;
- explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretations of them;
- undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.



In Year 12 two units cover pre-1900 prose fiction, drama, critical analysis and poetry comparison. Two examinations are taken at the end of the year on “The Mayor of Casterbridge”, “A Streetcar Named Desire” and the poetry of Seamus Heaney and Owen Sheers.

In Year 13 three units are completed. Two units are based on examinations at the end of the year focusing on the selected poems of Christina Rossetti, unseen poetry analysis and ‘Hamlet’. The final unit is a non-examination assessment (coursework) based on the reading of two prose texts from different periods.

The study of literature should encourage enjoyment of literary studies based on an informed personal response to a range of texts. We aim to provide our learners with an introduction to the discipline of advanced literary studies by giving them a range of experiences inside and outside the classroom, including theatre visits and lecture trips, in order to present opportunities for reading widely and for making creative and informed responses to each of the major literary genres of poetry, prose and drama.



VISIT TO HAY ON WYE
BOOK FESTIVAL