

St Aidan's Catholic Academy

'We believe that God has created each person to celebrate life to the full'



English Literature

English Literature	
Name of Course	Edexcel GCSE English Literature (1ET0)
Exam Board	Edexcel
Curriculum Outline	Pupils will undertake two components, each with two sections.
	Component 1: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Literature Pupils will develop skills of analysis and evaluation while incorporating an understanding of form and context. Pupils will develop a critical style and the ability to form a personal response. Section A – Pupils must read and study a Shakespeare play. At St Aidan's Catholic Academy, the play chosen for GCSE English Literature is 'Macbeth'. Section B – Pupils must read and study a British novel or play that was written post-1914. At St Aidan's Catholic Academy, the text chosen for GCSE English Literature is J.B. Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls'.
	Component 2: 19th-century Novel and Poetry since 1789 Pupils will develop the ability to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects. Pupils continue to develop the ability to maintain a critical style and an informed personal response as well as developing their comparison skills. Section A – Pupils must read and study a 19th Century Novel. They are asked a two-part question. The first requires pupils to analyse a short extract of their chosen novel, closely examining language, form and structure. The second is an essay-style question asking that pupils discuss a theme over the course of the whole novel. At St Aidan's Catholic Academy, the novel chosen for GCSE English Literature is Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. Section B – Pupils must read and study an anthology of poetry. They are asked one question comparing a named poem from the anthology to one other poem (also from the anthology) of their choosing. The named poem will be shown on the question paper. They are also asked one question comparing two unseen poems; both unseen poems are shown on the question paper. At St Aidan's Catholic Academy, the anthology chosen for GCSE English Literature is the 'Power and Conflict' anthology.



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Learning & Assessment Method	Component 1 – 50% of the GCSE. The unit is assessed through a 1 Hour and 45 minute examination, set and marked by Edexcel. Component 2 – 50% of the GCSE. The unit is assessed though a 2 hour and 15 minute examination, set and marked by Edexcel.
Curriculum Intent	This course explores the art and craft of written creativity from carefully selected parts of our shared cultural-history. Exploration of literature from throughout history is essentially an exploration of the themes and experiences of society and the people within it. Human themes, and the human experience are largely universal but almost impossible to describe. When studying literature, we are studying the work of those who have tried to find this explanation and have presented their findings in creative, entertaining and artistic ways. The ability to interpret, analyse and evaluate such artistic endeavours with a critical eye is crucial to pupils forming their own opinions about the world around them. The literacy gained from studying in such a way promotes independent study-skills and academic self-expression while also nurturing our deeper need for creativity. Understanding and experiencing historical, cultural and often personal issues from throughout our rich literary-history increases the cultural capital of our pupils. This can promote mental health and wellbeing for our pupils by nurturing their ability to express themselves and their opinions through creativity and artistic endeavours if they choose to, as many have attempted to before them.
Career and Learning Progression	English Literature combines many of the attributes looked for in further and higher education such as: extended writing skills; reading with purpose; and expressing a point of view persuasively, critically and with clarity. Skills of analysis, evaluation and comparison are transferrable into many areas of academic and professional life. English Literature has strong ties to other academic areas of study such as Sociology, History, Psychology, Art and Media Studies. The course also creates transferrable skills which could lead pupils to vocations in areas such as: Performing Arts Media Politics Teaching Marketing Academia Journalism History Social Sciences
Useful Links	Edexcel GCSE English Literature (9-1) from 2015 Pearson qualifications