

A level

English language

The study of English Language allows you to explore and discover a wide range of methods people use to communicate. It helps us to understand others better, as well as understanding when and how people are attempting to influence us with their language.

Entry requirements

- Level 6 in GCSE English Language
- Level 6 in GCSE English Literature

Course breakdown

In Year 12 you will study a range of topics, including:

- Language and power
- Language and gender
- Language and occupation
- Regional varieties of English
- Close analysis of language use

In Year 13 you will build on your first year of study, exploring more advanced topics including:

- Child language development (how children learn to speak, read and write)
- How English has changed over hundreds of years
- International varieties of the English Language

You will also complete a piece of coursework that includes some original writing and an investigation into something you find interesting.

How will the course be assessed?

Although you will not be entered for a formal examination at the end of Year 12, you can expect to undertake a number of interim assessments so that you can keep track of your progress and your teacher can identify your strengths and those areas in which you might require further support and guidance. In addition to these ongoing assessments you will also have formal internal examinations where your performance will be used to consider suitability for progression into Year 13 and predicted grades for UCAS or other applications.

At the end of Year 13 you will be entered for the A level in English Language. This will assess the content and skills covered in both years of study.

- Exam: Language, the Individual and Society
2.5 hours – 40% of A level
- Exam: Language Diversity and Change
2.5 hours – 40% of A level
- Coursework: Language in Action
20% of A level

Where can the course lead?

English Language is useful for a wide range of career options and further study as it deals with communication, which is essential in the vast majority of job roles. However, it is especially useful if you are thinking of careers in primary education, journalism, the media, advertising or law.



more about our curriculum