

# ENGLISH LITERATURE A Level

## Why Study This Course?

- You have a genuine interest in English Literature
- You have a love of reading
- You have a spirit of adventure and inquiry
- You have a keenness for learning something new
- You have the willingness to study independently
- You have the ability to meet deadlines

## Career Progression

Law, journalism, teaching, publishing, novelist, advertising, administration, marketing, PR, retail and sales positions, accountancy, banking, research.



## What You'll Study

### Key Texts:

Our course introduces you three key areas corresponding to the three examinations in Y13:

### Fiction: Science and Society

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. The original science fiction tale, first composed on Lake Geneva, set its mark on the gothic novel for all time. A Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood. Recently adapted for the screen, Atwood's fierce portrayal of the world turned upside down relies on real historical precedents for its dystopia.

### Drama: Tragedy

Othello by William Shakespeare – a story of revenge, racism and murder with powerfully relevant messages for today's society. A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams. A powerful story of fantasy meeting reality set in New Orleans.

### Poetry: Romantic Verse

Intensity, individualism, radicalism and passion! We study the roots and development of the tempestuous Romantic movement from iconoclastic artist and writer William Blake, through the work of William Wordsworth, Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley and John Keats and discuss how its influence has lasted into the modern day.

The Forward Anthology: Poems of the Decade Represents one of the best collections of prize winning contemporary 21st century verse.

### Non-examined Assessment:

We study a central text, the modern American play Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller, and you have the opportunity to compare an aspect of this with a text of your choice not studied on the curriculum. A carefully organised coursework module will teach you valuable university-ready skills like critical reading, research and citation.

# Why Study English Literature at PWSFC?

## Why I chose English Literature

"I have enjoyed the independent aspect of the course – researching different interpretations for example or some further background context on the work done in class. It also covers historical context and social context which I find particularly engaging as well. Both my teachers have provided support when needed whilst allowing me and the students in my class to work independently. The teaching style is different and more independent but teachers still provide all the support you require. My teachers have constantly challenged and supported me through individual and group presentations, providing extra-curricular clubs for Literature and suggestions for new books to read."

- Holly

## If you like this subject you may also like:

History, Ancient History, Drama & Theatre, English Language, Art

## Why Parrs Wood?

A Level English Literature at Parrs Wood is a rigorous, linear two year qualification following the Edexcel English Literature curriculum. The course has been chosen for its exciting and engaging texts, accessibility and relevance to life in the 21st century. At Parrs Wood we mix classic texts by Shakespeare and Mary Shelley with some of the latest in contemporary writing, as well as an opportunity to study your own choice of texts independently.

We provide various opportunities for specific targeted groups of students:

### We love English Club

A gifted and talented literature club for enrichment and exploration of texts and genres outside of the Literature specification. Every week at lunch times.

We look forward to providing opportunities for theatre trips to see new productions of *Streetcar*, *Death of a Salesman* or *Othello* and participation in our new Romantic Poets trip to Grasmere in the Lake District / Newstead Abbey in Nottinghamshire.

**Exam Board: EDEXCEL**

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