

English Language

(Exam Board: AQA)

Subject Leader:

Mrs J King/Mrs C Scriven

What do I need?

Students should have a grade 5 or above in English Language and Literature GCSE.

What will I learn and how will I be assessed?

The A level specifications cover knowledge and understanding of the following areas:

Year 1:	Year 2:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language methods• Language meanings and representations (spoken, written and multimodal texts)• Language Varieties (sociolects and dialects)• Directed Writing (on attitudes to language, e.g. write an opinion article)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigation• Original Writing and Commentary• Language Change (from 1600)• Ethnicity• World Englishes• Child Language Acquisition

- Language methods to assist with the systematic study and analysis of language include: phonology, phonetics and prosody, lexis, grammar, graphology, discourse, pragmatics and semantics.

A Level – How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society

What's assessed:

- Textual variations and representations
- Children's language development (0-11 years)
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Method of Assessment: written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

- 100 marks
- 40% of A-level

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change

What's assessed:

- Language diversity and change
- Language discourses
- Writing skills
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Method of Assessment: written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

- 100 marks
- 40% of A-level

Non-exam assessment: Language in Action

What's assessed:

- Language Investigation
- Original Writing and Commentary
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Method of Assessment

- Word count: 3,500
- 100 marks
- 20% of A-level
- Assessed by teachers
- Moderated by AQA

Tasks - Students produce:

- a language investigation (2,000 words excluding data)
- a piece of original writing and commentary (1,500 words total)

Is there anything else I need to know?

- Key skills developed through studying English Language. These specifications provide opportunities for developing and generating evidence for assessing the following key skills:
 - Communication, IT, Working with Others and Improving Own Learning and Performance.
- Other subjects which combine well with this subject are English Literature, Sociology, Psychology, Health and Social Care, Art, History, Drama, Music and Government and Politics, as well as languages.
- There are over 1,700 degree programmes in English and the following are some of the other courses which list A level English as a preferred or required subject: - Law, Journalism, American Studies, Creative Writing, Cultural Studies, Film Studies, Media, Theatre Studies.