

# English

## The Department

**Ms R Rawling** – SHARE Multi Academy Trust - Director of English

**Ms S Backhouse** – Director of English and Media

**Ms E Sanderson** – Assistant Director of English

**Ms J Hunt** – KS5 Co-Ordinator for English

**Mr A Clarke** – Lead Practitioner in English

**Mrs Smith-Longman** – Lead Practitioner in English

**Mr D Stackhouse** – Teacher of English

**Mr D Quirk** – Teacher of English

**Mrs O'Neill** – Teacher of English

**Mr J Manning** – Teacher of English

## Post-16

Shelley College offers two valuable English courses: **English Language** and **English Literature**.

**English Language** is a fascinating course which explores the diversity of the English language through spoken, written and electronic forms. This A level is an excellent base subject and allows students doorways into many other careers and university subjects, including key links with other subjects such as Psychology, History and Sociology. This A Level leads you through the interesting ways in which we adapt our language dependent on our gender, age and regional background, to a fascinating exploration of how children learn to speak, read and write. You will also have the opportunity to investigate a specific aspect of communication through an investigation and the journalism focus of our coursework is a popular feature. The journalism module gives students the opportunity to use their own key interests as the basis for their writing, with many of our students taking this area forward to study at degree level.

**The English Literature course** offers a wide variety of modern and classic, prose, poetry and drama texts. As a facilitating subject, this course is regarded highly by universities and has many crossovers with other subjects such as Theatre Studies, History and Philosophy & Ethics. Key focus areas of this course include the Gothic tradition, Dystopian literature and plays from the American tragedy genre. This engaging and challenging course allows you to experience, explore and analyse the texts, immersing yourself in the themes, characters, contexts and alternative readings of these enthralling narratives.

## English Language

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

In Year 12, students will be introduced to the key language frameworks before going on to explore children's language development, features of different text types (speech, electronic, multi-modal) and the impact of identity on language choices (gender, age, power, region...).

In Year 13, students begin work on a piece of journalism coursework in which they write two feature articles and an analytical commentary focusing on how their language choices link to purpose and audience. Once coursework is completed, students go on to study the changes affecting the English language in order to explore how language has varied over time. Students will also complete their own language investigation, exploring a key focus area and researching this particular style and its conventions - which involves collecting, analysing and evaluating

data.

### The English Department recommends the following Study guides

- *Edexcel AS English Language Student Book (Publisher - Edexcel)*
- *Edexcel A2 English Language Student Book (Publisher - Edexcel)*

Past exam papers and sources can also be accessed on the exam board website:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>

## English Literature

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

### Students will study the following texts

- ✚ *Doctor Faustus by Christopher Marlowe, ISBN 9780582817807.*
- ✚ *Poems of the Decade (An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry) Selected by William Sieghart, ISBN 9780571325405*
- ✚ *Frankenstein by Mary Shelley, Penguin Classics ISBN 978-0141439471*
- ✚ *The Handmaid's Tale, Margaret Atwood, Vintage, ISBN 978-0099740919.*
- ✚ *Othello, William Shakespeare, Oxford School Shakespeare ISBN 9780198328735*
- ✚ *A Modernist Poetry Anthology – **please note this will be provided by the English Department.***

### Coursework texts

- ✚ *Death of a Salesman, Arthur Miller (Penguin Modern Classics)*
- ✚ *A View from the Bridge, Arthur Miller (Penguin Modern Classics)*

Students will develop their knowledge of literary terminology whilst learning to analyse language, structure and form in their explorations of the writer's craft. They will go on to develop an appreciation for the contextual influences on the texts as well as being introduced to critical approaches. 'Poems of the Decade' is a modern and varied collection of poetry ranging in subject from the supernatural to conflict and from relationships to the frustrations of modern life. Doctor Faustus is the archetypal tale of the lengths people will go to reach their dreams and the drastic consequences that follow. For the prose aspect of the course, students will study Shelley's classic Gothic tale of what happens when we take science too far and contrast it with Atwood's dystopian vision of a future in which freedom has been compromised. In Y13, students will be introduced to Shakespeare's classic, 'Othello', a tragedy exploring the follies of men, as well as a new collection of poetry from the Modernist movement. For coursework, students will explore a range of Miller plays and will be required to develop an appreciation for the contextual influences on the text. Students will also be taught how to apply a range of critical approaches and to understand the connections between texts.

### The English Department recommends the following study guides.

- ✚ *Doctor Faustus, York Notes Advanced, ISBN 9780582784260*
- ✚ *Frankenstein York Notes for AS & A2, Byron ISBN 978-1447913214*
- ✚ *The Handmaid's Tale York Notes Advanced, ISBN 978-0582784369*
- ✚ *Philip Allan Literature Guide (for A-Level): Death of a Salesman, ISBN 978-1444121582*
- ✚ *Philip Allan Literature Guide (for A-Level): Othello,, ISBN 978-1444116229*

Past exam papers and sources can also be accessed on the exam board website: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>