

## English Literature

A Level

Exam Board: **Edexcel**



**ST. MARY MAGDALENE**

C OF E SIXTH FORM

PENINSULA CAMPUS

*Excellence through innovation,  
founded in faith since 1840.*

### What is English Literature?

English Literature at SMM6 will provide you with a mix of literary analysis, contextual thinking, wider reading and independent learning. This course will offer a clear progression from secured skills from GCSE to a deeper development at A-Level English.

After two years of studying A Level English Literature you will develop a discipline and enjoyment of reading through a variety of texts. You will also analyse, evaluate and undertake independent research which are valuable for both further study and future employment.

### What will I study?

#### **Component 1: Drama**

Students study:

- one Shakespeare play and one other drama from either tragedy or comedy – both texts may be selected from one or both of these categories.
- critical essays related to their selected Shakespeare play. Students' preparation is supported by *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy* or *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Comedy*.

#### **Component 2: Prose**

Students study:

- two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least **one** of the prose texts must be pre-1900. We currently student *Frankenstein* and *A Handmaid's Tale*.

#### **Component 3: Poetry**

Students study:

- a selection of post-2000 specified poetry (Poems of the Decade)
- a named poet from within a literary period. (Keats)
- unseen poetry

### What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements you will need a grade 6 minimum in English Language and Literature.

### How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of different methods such as group discussions, pair work and independent learning. Where possible students will also be encouraged to watch live performances of plays.

### How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1:** 2 hours 15 minutes written paper (worth 30% of the A-Level)

**Paper 2:** 1 hours 15 minutes written paper (worth 20% of the A-Level)

**Paper 3:** 2 hours 15 minutes written paper (worth 30% of the A-Level)

**NEA (Coursework):** 1 comparative essay (worth 20% of the A-Level)

### What career opportunities does this open up?

Students of English Literature can go on to study Law, History, Politics, Journalism, Advertising and Media, as well as literature-based degree courses.