

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE (A LEVEL)</b>
<b>BOARD</b>	OCR
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	This course is designed to develop students' understanding of the ways language is used in a variety of real-world situations. Across the two years, the focus is split between, on the one hand, the application of linguistic methods and analysis of language levels, and, on the other, exploration of the ways language use is influenced by its context and function.
<b>COURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<p>The course consists of three units:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exploring Language: the focus of this unit is the close analysis of the way language is used in everyday contexts. Students are expected to apply a range of analytical methods as well as using their understanding of the topics covered to write creatively about a topical language issue.</li> <li>2. Dimensions of Linguistic Variation: in this traditionally popular unit, students learn about the processes involved in children's acquisition of language, the historical development of the English language, and the ways language use is influenced by technology, gender and power.</li> <li>3. Independent language research: students conduct a language-based investigation of a topic of their choosing, as negotiated with teaching staff.</li> </ol>
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	Internally assessed, externally moderated coursework unit comprising an independent language study and an academic poster presentation (20%), and two end-of-course examinations (80%).
<b>PROGRESSION</b>	English Language is an extremely wide-ranging A level which both develops the skills learned at GCSE and takes them in new and fascinating directions. A technical and, in many ways, more scientific course than that offered at GCSE, it provides students with analytical skills that are highly sought-after by employers, as well as a nuanced understanding of the ways in which language is used. These are skills that are easily transferable between disciplines, and as a result students go on to further study in a wide variety of fields, including Linguistics, Cultural Studies, Media, and Law, to name but a few. The unit on Child language Acquisition particularly benefits those students with ambitions to go on to study Education, Nursing, Psychology, or any field where an understanding of child development is necessary.
<b>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS</b>	<p><b>In order to study A level English Language you should have gained at least a grade 6 in GCSE English Language.</b></p> <p>If you have any questions regarding this course, please see Dr Gallivan.</p>