Why should I study English Literature?

English Literature is an ideal choice for anyone who loves reading and books. Literature allows us to ask big questions about ourselves, others, and human existence. It is also a highly respected A Level that can be instrumental in helping you gain university places in a variety of subjects. You will also gain a great deal of academic prowess through a subject that promotes the development of transferable skills. English literature students are taught to think analytically, consider different interpretations and listen and respond to one another sensitively in preparation for the seminar style environment they are likely to find at university. One of the most important skills you learn is how to write coherently and critically. This is an essential skill that will aid you in their other subjects and is invaluable in higher education and the world of employment.

Bolingbroke is best for English Literature because...

Should you choose Bolingbroke Sixth Form, you can expect to be taught by a team of passionate English teachers with excellent subject knowledge. You will have access to an extensive library, develop and challenge your thinking in university-style seminars and form a love of literature which will remain with you for the rest of your life. With central London being only fifteen minutes away from Bolingbroke, you will be taken on a wide range of theatre trips and university visits to broaden your appreciation of Literature.

What will I study?

Course content in Year 12
Aspects of Tragedy & Elements of Crime:
Shakespeare Othello
Arthur Miller Death of a Salesman
Thomas Hardy – Tess of the d’Urbervilles
Samuel Taylor Coleridge - The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

Course content in Year 13
Elements of Crime
Shakespeare Hamlet
Ian McEwan Atonement

Non-Examination Assessment: Students will complete their own independent study of two texts of their choice. One will be poetry and one prose. These pieces will be underpinned by their study of literary theory. One NEA piece will take the form of a conventional essay. The other will be a re-creative piece accompanied by a commentary.

Additional activities within this subject

- Theatre trips
- University trips to English departments
- Movie nights
- Book club
- Opportunities to tutor and mentor younger pupils
- Individual subject support

What our students say

“Bolingbroke English teachers go the extra mile to help us reach our full potential.”

Class of 2019