KS5 Curriculum
English Literature & Language

THE WALDERSLADE & GREENACRE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Qualification type / Exam Board

A-Level / AQA

What will I learn about?

- Explore a range of literary and non-literary texts, including novels, poetry, drama and non-fiction.
- Analyse how writers use language, structure and literary techniques to communicate ideas and meanings.
- Study how language is influenced by context, audience, purpose and genre.
- Compare texts and explore different interpretations.
- Develop creative writing skills by producing your own original texts.
- Improve analytical, essay-writing, communication and independent research skills.

How is my work assessed?

The course is assessed through two written exams and one coursework investigation:

Assessment	Weighting	Details
Paper 1: Telling Stories	40%	3-hour written exam exploring places, prose and poetry.
Paper 2: Exploring Conflict	40%	2-hour 30-minute written exam involving creative writing, commentary and drama analysis.
Coursework: Making Connections	20%	An independent investigation of 2,500–3,000 words comparing literary and non-literary texts.

Both exams are taken at the end of Year 13. Coursework is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.

What should I consider before starting this subject?

- You should enjoy reading, writing and exploring different types of texts.
- Be prepared to read independently and complete regular essays.
- You will need strong analytical skills and an interest in how language works.
- You should be comfortable discussing different interpretations and expressing your opinions.
- The course combines creative writing with detailed literary and linguistic analysis.
- Good organisation and time management are important, particularly for coursework.

Why is this course useful and what might it lead to?

- Develops valuable skills in communication, critical thinking, research and creativity.
- Provides a strong foundation for university courses such as English, Journalism, Law, Media, Education and Creative Writing.
- Can lead to careers in teaching, publishing, journalism, marketing, public relations, advertising and law.
- Helps improve confidence in presenting arguments, analysing information and expressing ideas clearly.

Entry requirements

- Typically, a grade 4 in GCSE English Language and English Literature is recommended.
- Good reading comprehension, essay-writing and communication skills.
- A genuine interest in literature, language and independent study.

Where can I find more information?

- AQA English Language and Literature A-Level Specification (7707)
- AQA Course Content and Assessment Overview
- Speak to the English department or sixth-form subject teachers.
- Visit university websites or UCAS to explore related degree courses and career pathways.