

# A-Level English Literature at West Hatch:



## Course Outline:

In Literature, students study a wide variety of texts, including contemporary poetry from the anthology *Poems of the Decade*, as well as *Othello* by William Shakespeare, *The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale* by Geoffrey Chaucer, *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams, *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood, and Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*. The course ranges from ancient literature to the very modern, and is intended to give students the academic knowledge and impetus to pursue further study in the country's finest universities; both in our subject, and in the Humanities, Arts and Law more generally. Students wishing to undertake A-level in Literature are recommended to read widely to support their understanding of the subject, and there is a required reading list in our course pre-joining booklet.

In Year 13, students will complete **coursework**, worth 20% of the overall grade, in which they will compare two texts of their own choosing in answer to a question of their own devising. Their teachers will be on hand to support this process, but it remains the most significant moment of academic independence students will enjoy before their completion of an undergraduate dissertation.

In the past we have offered students a wide range of trips, conferences and further enrichment, designed to maximise enjoyment of the course, increase understanding and subject knowledge and to promote the further study. Where there are online alternatives we will use them until post-pandemic normality resumes.

Literature at West Hatch has amongst the strongest results of any course in the region, with **50%-A\*-A, 83.3% A\*-B, and 100% A\*-C** in our last public examinations, however students must be confident that they have the academic stamina and interest necessary to attain those outcomes

## Workload:

At the end of each half term, students will complete an in-class, practice exam question. At the end of the first half of the summer term, students will sit a formal, pre-public exam (PPE).

In Year 13, as well as the in-class practice questions, there will be two sets of PPEs, one before the Christmas break and the other before Easter. Students will also complete their coursework portfolio during this academic year. There are two examination papers to be sat, and the course code is 9EL0

**For each timetabled lesson, students should expect to spend an hour or more working independently**, which will include preparation: reading ahead and doing research. It might also mean time spent completing or adding to annotations, completing analytical responses and practice exam questions, or preparing presentations. They should also take every opportunity to watch both live performances and filmic interpretations of their texts.

*If you would like any further information please contact Mr D Bundred, Key Stage 5 Coordinator for English, at [DBundred@Westhatch.net](mailto:DBundred@Westhatch.net)*