



**The Cardinal Wiseman School**  
**A Level courses 2021-23**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Entry Requirements**

6 Level 9 to 4 GCSE passes including a 6 in English Language

**What will I study?**

- English Language introduces the study of English in its various forms and contexts, with the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis of language underpinning all elements of the course.
- Offering clear skills progression from GCSE, this course allows you to build on the skills already gained and prepare for your next steps.
- The variety of assessment styles used, such as data analysis, discursive essays, directed writing, original writing and research-based investigative writing will allow you to develop a wide range of skills. These include critical reading, data analysis, evaluation, the ability to develop and sustain arguments and a number of different writing skills which are invaluable for both further study and future employment.

**A Level English Language is assessed by written examination (80%) and coursework (20%). There are two written papers:**

**Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society** – 40% of the A level mark. 2 hours 30 minutes.

**Section A: Textual Variations and Representations – two texts (one contemporary and one older) linked by topic or theme.**

- A question requiring analysis of one text (25 marks)
- A question requiring analysis of a second text (25 marks)
- A questions requiring comparison of the two texts (20 marks)

**Section B: Children's Language Development**

- A discursive essay on children's language development, with a choice of two questions where the data provided will focus on spoken, written or multi-modal language

**Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change** – 40% of the A level mark. 2 hours and 30 minutes

Section A: Diversity and Change

- One question from a choice of two – either an evaluative essay on language change or language diversity

Section B: Language Discourses: Two texts about a topic linked to the study of diversity and change

- A question requiring analysis of how the texts use language to present ideas, attitudes and opinions (40 marks)
- A directed writing task linked to the same topic and the ideas in the texts (30 marks)

**Coursework: Language in Action** – 20% of the A Level mark.

**Task:** Students to produce a language investigation and a piece of original writing and commentary.

**What skills will I develop?**

- You will develop your skills as producers and interpreters of language, by understanding and using the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language.
- You will also develop your skills as independent producers and interpreters of language.

**How will this subject help me with my future career?**

A Level English Language is a respected, academic subject which will be helpful in any field of work or study. All areas of personal development require effective communication and interpretation skills, which are a key focus of this course.