



The Cardinal Wiseman School
A Level courses 2026-28

ENGLISH LITERATURE (OCR)

Entry Requirements:

6 x Grade 9 to 4 GCSE passes including a grade 6 in English Literature **and** English Language or a combination of grades 7 and 5 in English Language **and** English Literature.

A Level Outline

Paper 1 Drama and Poetry Pre 1900 (Exam 2: 30)

- *The Duchess of Malfi* by John Webster
- *Paradise Lost (Books IX and X)* by John Milton
- *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare

Paper 2 Comparative and Contextual Study: The Gothic (Exam 2:30)

- *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter
- *Dracula* by Bram Stoker or *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *Gothic wider reading*

Component 3 Literature Post 1900 and Post 2000 – essay and re-creative (Coursework)

- *Rapture* by Carol Ann Duffy
- *Reflections in a Golden Eye* by Carson McCullers
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

What skills will I develop?

- To develop your interest and enjoyment of literary studies through reading widely, independently and critically.
- To develop as confident, independent and reflective readers of a range of texts, learning to express your responses effectively through speech and writing.
- To use critical concept and terminology with understanding and discrimination.
- A knowledge and understanding of individual texts to explore comparisons and links between them and to appreciate the significance of culture and historical influences upon readers and writers.

How will this subject help me with my future career?

English Literature is a versatile A Level which will help you with almost any career that you wish to pursue, including law, publishing and journalism. It is a highly academic subject which is valued by universities.