You develop the **INSIGHT** of an artist, the analytical **PRECISION** of a scientist and the **PERSUASIVENESS** of a lawyer.
What will the course involve?

English Language is a popular A Level appealing to students because it examines texts in the real world such as adverts, speeches and newspaper articles. The emphasis is on understanding how and why language is used in specific ways and developing knowledge of key terminology which will help you analyse texts in a concise and focused style.

After learning how to analyse unseen texts, you will continue to develop your understanding of key frameworks as well as studying the development of English Language over time. This topic covers historical, social and cultural aspects as well as examining current attitudes towards the effects of new technology. There is also a focus on spoken language. You will analyse a wide range of transcripts from television and radio, spontaneous real life talk, comedy and child language acquisition.

How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of the second year (80%) and one piece of coursework (20%).

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What will the course involve?

English Literature appeals to students who are passionate about reading, debating and interpreting texts from a range of historical periods. This is a two year linear course where you will gain critical appreciation of literary texts and demonstrate your own close analysis of poetry, prose and drama through cogent, detailed essays.

The exams will test your understanding of plays from the Renaissance period, such as 'The Duchess of Malfi' and 'The Tempest', and the twentieth century 'A Streetcar Named Desire'. Modern poetry by Larkin and Duffy are studied to test your ability to write comparatively on their shared themes.

Coursework, which is worth 20%, is a 2,500-3,500 word essay allowing you to compare the modern novel Notes on a Scandal with The Great Gatsby. In addition to the set texts, the unseen exam component develops you as a wider reader with extracts from works by Hardy, Wilde, Doyle, Rossetti to name a few.

How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of the second year (80%) and one piece of coursework (20%).

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English Language at Carmel is a subject that has given me an abundance of opportunities that have only furthered my love for the subject and implored me to pursue it at degree level.

The dedication of the staff and the guidance given to students, both as a class and individually (especially during coursework deadlines), really enables you to achieve your best and exceed your minimum expected grade.

As well as this, lessons are relaxed, yet planned to always be interesting. We cover a range of topics across the different components and, therefore, I personally always leave lessons feeling as if I’ve gained something which is why English Language is so inspiring and intriguing.

Holly Rimmer-Haines
Holly Lodge
Studying: English Language, English Literature, Geography
What will the course involve?
This is a popular course that links the skills of both English Language and English Literature study. It will appeal to students who have enjoyed both aspects at GCSE and wish to continue studying them in a broader and more in-depth manner.

During the two years you will explore how voice is crafted in both speech and writing, focusing on a drama text ‘All My Sons’, the poetry collection ‘The Whitsun Weddings’ as well as a range of short literary, non-literary and digital texts. You will also study texts that give you the opportunity to explore the ways in which different writers use language techniques and literary devices to convey their thoughts or ideas on a theme in literary and non-fiction writing. For example, you will analyse the techniques Fitzgerald uses to explore ‘Society and the Individual’ in ‘The Great Gatsby’.

As well as reading and analysing texts written by other people, you will also be given the opportunity to develop your own skills as a writer by producing two pieces of creative writing in response to a topic area, such as ‘Crossing Boundaries’. You will also undertake wider reading to further your understanding of texts from a range of genres and time periods.

How will I be assessed?
There will be two exams at the end of the second year (80%) and one coursework component (20%).
How successful are Carmel's English students?

Carmel's English students achieve consistently high results across all three subjects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Literature</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Language &amp; Literature</td>
<td>100%</td>
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What are the entry requirements for these courses?

For all English subjects you will need a grade 5 in GCSE English Language and a grade 5 in GCSE English Literature (if studied).

Is there anything I should consider when choosing which English subject to take?

Students who know which specific English degree they are going to pursue should take the same A Level course. Students who are applying to Oxbridge, or prestigious universities should check with the university’s admissions team to see which English course is preferred.

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Studying English as a combined course has enabled me to acquire the skills to help me in further education, as well as in life.

It is an intriguing A Level which sparks creativity as well as helping you to construct critical and invaluable analysis.

I've particularly enjoyed learning about the genre of modernism; Philip Larkin’s realisation of post-war Britain offers a strange yet vastly interesting lament on modern life. Carmel has been an excellent bridge between school and university, preparing me for adult life. English Lang & Lit has accompanied my studies in Drama perfectly and has given me the confidence and skills I will need when I take my gap year to South East Asia before studying Drama in London.

Jack Tisdall
Childwall Academy
Studying:
English Lang & Lit, Drama & Theatre, History

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### MEET THE TUTORS

Mark McGrath
Curriculum Leader
Head of English Language

Elizabeth Connor
Head of English Language & Literature

Jo-Anne Duckworth
Head of English Literature

Janet Gater
Assistant Principal

Rebecca Blakey
Nicholas Williams