MERIDIAN SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

SUCCESSFUL
PERSONALISED
PASSIONATE
SUPPORTIVE
COMMUNITY SPIRITED
COMPETITIVE
CELEBRATORY

English Literature
A Level
Head of Department:
Mr Smith
Exam Board: OCR

What is the course about?

In English Literature we study a wide range of texts from the gothic genre as well as a Shakespearean play and a collection of poetry. We also have the opportunity to study texts of our own choice for coursework.

In a typical week in English Literature, you might find yourself confronted with extracts from Dracula, The Bloody Chamber, The Wasp Factory, almost anything by Edgar Allen Poe, The Tempest, the poetry of Keats, Wordsworth, Shelley... almost anything and everything that will help you to broaden your knowledge and experience of literature. It is this variety of intriguing and wide ranging texts that makes the subject so fascinating to study.

What will I study in the first year?
In the first year you will study three set Gothic texts, A play by Shakespeare and several poems.

What will I study in the second year?
In the second year you will study critical approaches to the set texts. These approaches will include looking at texts from a feminist, psychoanalytic and Marxist perspective – to name but a few.

How is the course assessed?
Assessment is 80% exam and 20% coursework, which is written in the second year.

What skills will I develop in this course?
By the end of the course, English Literature students will have developed an impressive array of transferable skills including critical analysis, structuring arguments, selecting evidence, debating theories and of course a thorough understanding of the gothic genre.

What does this subject offer for higher education and future careers?
This subject is considered a competitive one in terms of university entrance. It attracts a lot of applicants for university as it combines the academic, creative thinking and analytical skills which are so valued in many careers. The skills are transferable to a range of disciplines and careers, including Publishing, Journalism, Psychology, Law, Advertising and Marketing.