

Spalding Grammar School Sixth Form

Subject Information

English Language

Entry Requirement:

*Grade 6 in GCSE English Language **and** Grade 5 in GCSE English Literature.*

Awarding body: AQA

About the subject: A Level English Language enables you to explore human communication in its many forms. It will encourage you to think more carefully about the language you encounter in everyday life – from the writing on the back of a packet of crisps to the conversations you overhear on the school bus. You will explore topics as diverse as how children learn language, language in the workplace and language on the internet. You will also examine how people feel about the language they use, and the links between language and identity. The course will involve the study of a wide range of spoken and written texts, and will also enable you to investigate a topic of your own choice. A Level English Language is a fantastic choice if you are considering studying an art or social science at university. It will open doors to career options in a wide range of employment sectors, including journalism, publishing, public relations or performing arts. Studying English Language can lead to successful careers in law, finance and sales and marketing, as well as in fields such as education, psychology and speech therapy.

English Language will develop your communication skills and is highly regarded by both employers and universities.

Assessment:

- **Unit 1:** Language, the Individual and Society (2 hour 30 minute exam: 40% of A Level)

In this unit you will learn about core methods of language analysis and explore the different levels of language. You'll explore a wide range of texts, taken from both the past and the present. You will also study child language acquisition.

- **Unit 2:** Language Diversity and Change (2 hour 30 minute exam: 40% of A Level)

This unit explores language diversity and change over time. You will study the English language in its wider social and geographical contexts, considering how our language is shaped by where we live and by the different social groups we belong to. You will also explore the processes by which the English language has changed over time.

- **Unit 3:** Language in Action (Coursework: 20% of A Level)

This unit gives you the opportunity to carry out an independent piece of work on an area of language of your choice, providing an excellent introduction to research skills and project management. You will also produce a piece of original writing with an accompanying commentary.