

Little Heath School Sixth Form

Year 12 Induction Evening for Parents 2016

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| English Literature |

Welcome to the department

The Year 12 teaching pairs are as follows:

Mrs Clowes mclowes@littleheath.org.uk

Mrs Kemp lbignell@littleheath.org.uk

Mr Danbury wdanbury@littleheath.org.uk

Mr Hand rhand@littleheath.org.uk

Students have eight lessons per fortnight and it is important that they use their personal study periods wisely to read and annotate their texts.

What the course involves

In Year 12, students will sit two exams, both 1.5 hours long. They will study *King Lear*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Remains of the Day* and a selection of Keats’ poetry. These texts will all be studied as representative of the tragic genre.

 *The Remains of the Day* will then be used as part of the Non Exam Assessment (formerly known as coursework) for 20% of the full A Level. The remaining texts are assessed in Year 13 in a 2.5 hour exam worth 40% of the full A Level.

In addition to the texts studied in Year 12, we will study *A Doll’s House*, *The Kite Runner* and *Songs of Innocence and Experience* for a 3 hour exam worth the remaining 40% of the A Level mark. These texts will be considered in relation to the genre of political and social protest writing.

Please refer to LHS Sixth Form website for more details.

Key to success at A Level

In order to succeed at English Literature, it is vital that students are reading carefully and thoroughly and annotating their texts. We would expect students to have read their exam texts at least three times before they sit the exam. Students are expected to spend between 3 and 4 hours a week outside lessons on their English, so there is plenty of time for them to be re-reading and making sure notes are up to date and clear. The A Level exam also has an unseen requirement, so reading as widely as possible in the genre of political and social protest writing would be useful.

Using the emagazine archive is a good way to find accessible articles both on your texts and more widely. The login and password are currently: **missmr littleheath**. Refer also to your PLCs and ensure that you are clear on the different skills you will be tested on.

What parents can do to help

Parents can be an enormous help to their children’s studies by reading the texts and discussing them; encouraging them to develop ‘cultural capital’ by taking them to the theatre and cinema and watching literary adaptations together on TV- always a good thing to do over Christmas! Vue cinema often screens recordings of National Theatre productions; this is a much cheaper and more convenient way to see good performances than going up to London. Ensuring your child is a member of their local library allows them access to a range of resources as well as wider reading opportunities. Reading Central Library is enormous and they can order books to come to their local branch for only 50p. You can also listen to your children read their work aloud to help improve the clarity of their expression.

Important deadlines

The N.E.A. will be started after the AS exam period and we would expect students to be working on this over the summer between Years 12 and 13.

Essential equipment

Make sure you know which texts to bring for each lesson.