



# ABBEGATE

## Sixth Form College

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Entry requirements: a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4-9 and minimum Grade 5 English Language

## STUDENT PROFILE

This course will appeal to those students who:

- have an interest in studying a wide variety of examples of spoken and written language, from the past and present
- enjoy expressing their opinions and justifying their comments on texts
- enjoy studying a subject which is relevant to their own lives and experiences
- are interested in creative writing and journalism
- enjoy independent investigative work
- are interested in how gender, technology and power affects our language
- would like to find out about how children acquire language

## PROGRESSION

Students with A-level English Language have a wide range of career and higher education opportunities available to them. Students learn and use a wide variety of transferable skills that can be used on a range of degree courses. English Language, Linguistics or Communication Studies can be studied as subjects in Higher Education.

English Language can also be combined with English Literature, and can lead to a variety of other degree subjects such as Media, Journalism, Primary Education, History or Speech and Language Therapy. Some students will also use their qualification to go straight into employment rather than Higher Education.

## STUDENT VIEW

“My A-level course was exceptionally interesting and stimulating; it allowed me to actively investigate everyday language and understand how it works. It developed my analytical skills and my ability to write in a range of different genres and styles.”

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## COURSE CONTENT

### Unit 1: Language, the Individual and Society

You will study textual variations and representations through exploring both contemporary, and older texts. You will consider thematic links between texts and explore the language choices made.

You will study children's language development (0-11 years). You will explore the ways children acquire spoken language and how they learn to read and write.

Assessed through a written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

40% of A-level

### Unit 2: Language Diversity and Change

You will study language diversity and change in a variety of different spoken and written texts. You will consider theories and ideas surrounding gender and ethnicity in language. You will explore how language can be powerful in different contexts. You will learn about the history and development of the English language.

You will also learn how to adapt your own writing to suit a variety of different audiences, purposes and genres.

Assessed through a written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

40% of A-level

### Non-exam assessment: Language in Action

You will produce a Language Investigation exploring aspects of language you have found particularly interesting. In addition, you will produce a portfolio of Original Writing, supported by an accompanying commentary.

Assessed through a coursework portfolio.

Word count: 3,500

20% of A-level

