

New Course starting September 2010

AS English Language

What's it all about?

English Language at AS/A2 level is an engaging and enjoyable course that builds on many of the skills acquired in GCSE English. There are three main areas of study at both AS and A level:

1. You will analyse a range of texts (both written and spoken) including multimodal analysis of media texts, emails and text messages, using the frameworks that underlie language in use. The most important of these frameworks is grammar, which for many will be a new and interesting way of looking closely at texts.
2. You will write different kinds of texts to suit different audiences and situations - for example, writing in different styles, including creative writing, letters and speeches.
3. You will look to respond to issues in language, including the history of language, child language acquisition, language change over time, accents and dialects, regional language differences in the UK and attitudes towards how language is used.

Is the course right for me?

If the course sounds appealing to you, which we hope it does, all you need to bring along is a GCSE profile including English and English Literature at grade B, and plenty of enthusiasm!

Career Opportunities

This subject can be studied at a higher level as Linguistics. A popular choice for a number of students is a degree in Speech Therapy, which leads to an interesting and engaging career working with both adults and children. Those who may wish to teach as a career (especially at the primary stage) benefit from the detailed understanding of the structure of language and its history that this course provides. Those wanting to go in to the law and criminology will find AS/A2 English Language a useful tool, with the future prospect of studying Forensic Linguistics at a higher level. It is also a popular choice for students wishing to pursue further studies in Communication and Modern Languages, as well as an excellent partnership with Social Sciences including Sociology and Psychology, all of which can be studied here at Andover College.

Plenty of Choice!

There will be opportunities to explore further areas of language use that interest you. Individual research and coursework (40%) at AS and A2 will form an important part of this course. You could, for example, analyse the language development of young children, the pronunciation features of foreign learners of English and the language of sporting events, to highlight just a few. There will also be the opportunity to develop creative writing skills.

Entry Criteria

Minimum of 5 *A-C GCSE's including a B English and English Literature.