

# English Literature

| <b>Brief Overview of the Course</b><br><i>(for further details, please see our Sixth Form Prospectus</i><br><a href="http://strschool.co.uk">Sixth Form Prospectus • Sir Thomas Rich's School (strschool.co.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Exam Board:</b> Edexcel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Topics Covered:</b><br><b>Year 12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Drama<br/>First readings of <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> by Tennessee Williams (Tragedy) and <i>Twelfth Night</i> by William Shakespeare (Comedy).<br/>Introduction of the Critical Anthology</li> <li>• Component 2: Prose<br/>First readings of <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> by Khaled Hosseini and <i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i> by Thomas Hardy</li> <li>• Component 3: Poetry<br/>First reading of contemporary poetry anthology: <i>Forward Poems of the Decade</i> (Post-2000)</li> <li>• Component 4: NEA<br/>Introduction to coursework</li> </ul> | <b>Topics Covered:</b><br><b>Year 13</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Drama<br/>Revision of <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> by Tennessee Williams (Tragedy), <i>Twelfth Night</i> by William Shakespeare (Comedy) and the Critical Anthology</li> <li>• Component 2: Prose<br/>Comparison of <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> by Khaled Hosseini and <i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i> by Thomas Hardy</li> <li>• Component 3: Poetry<br/>Revision of contemporary poetry anthology: <i>Forward Poems of the Decade</i> and introduction to either Chaucer or The Romantics</li> <li>• Component 4: NEA<br/>Completion of coursework</li> </ul> |

Please follow the instructions in the boxes below. The aim of these activities is to introduce you to the study of this subject at Advanced Level by:

- reinforcing your core knowledge and understanding of your chosen subject;
- encouraging you to think more deeply about your subject;
- supporting you to develop a deeper understanding of and appreciation for your subject as an academic discipline.

### Core Knowledge and Understanding Task

To familiarise with some of the writers and their chosen settings, characters and themes, read one (or more) of the following texts:

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Cat On A Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams

Far From The Madding Crowd by Thomas Hardy

Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare

Tennessee Williams: The Quiet Revolutionary

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2009/jul/27/tennessee-williams>

(You may choose to watch the plays rather than/as well as reading them.)

Once you have read the recommended text, make notes on the following:

1. What did you learn from the reading?
2. Have you identified any patterns or made any connections to other texts?
3. What unanswered questions has the reading left you with?
4. Did you enjoy what you have read? If so, why? If not, why not?
5. What did you notice about setting and how this was described and presented?
6. Which characters were most interesting to you? How are they characterised by the writer?
7. Are there any themes or topics that you would like to explore further?

Please bring your notes to your first English Literature lesson, during which we will discuss the texts and your responses to them.