

To leave secondary school without developing an appreciation for literature would truly be tragic. This is why we ensure our students have a chance to explore texts from a range of genres during their time at LWS. We set the literary works against their historical and social backgrounds, we explore the nuances of the ever-changing English language, and, above all, we let the texts carry us wherever their authors intended for us to go. In the process, the deeper meanings are unveiled and the hidden messages deciphered. It is an adventure not to be missed.

We firmly believe that every student's interpretation of a text – as long as evidence supports it - equals that of their teacher's. In the classroom, everyone's view is cherished, and it becomes a thread with which the fabric of our discussion is woven. Our goal is to raise adults who think critically and who are able to form independent opinions – on literature and beyond.

The texts we reach for are carefully selected to reflect the richness of literary tradition. Our students read Dickens, Poe and Orwell; they explore Shakespeare's plays in their unabridged entirety. Particular attention is given to poetry – we strive to eradicate the notion of it being a form of artistic expression to be enjoyed by the few. While our focus remains on British texts, we balance them with examples from world literature.

Alongside literature studies, our students deepen their overall linguistic competence in order to become confident, articulate users of the English language. Great care is given to meet every student's particular needs in the area of spelling and punctuation skills.

The one danger our students face is that after leaving LWS they will automatically look for examples of writer's effects in everything they read, and that a book with a simple narration may no longer have what it takes to win their hearts. All that enter our English classroom are given this fair warning!

*Marlena*