

31 May 2020



**Glenlola
Collegiate
School
Bangor**

Re: AS into A2 English Literature

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to advise pupils who wish to continue their study of English Literature to A2 Level about some important preparatory work and reading.

Firstly, we will be holding an introductory session to A2 Unit 3: Dystopian Prose (coursework) on Thursday 20th June, 9:10-12:30. All pupils studying English Literature should attend.

Over the summer, pupils should also continue preparatory work for their coursework. For the final piece, students are required to complete a 2500-word essay. The key challenge is that all students must research and write their essays independently, with very limited input from teaching staff. This piece is worth 20% of their A Level and should, therefore, be taken very seriously (see the CCEA specification, [pages 23-25](#)).

With this in mind, it is imperative that pupils keep up to date with the work and deadlines set in order to achieve their full potential in this assessment. Therefore, by the start of term, all pupils should have:

- Completed reading and annotation of their class text:
 - Mrs Graham's class - *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy ([ISBN 978-0-330-46846-6](#));
 - Mrs Bannister's class - *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood ([ISBN 978-1784708214](#)).
- Completed additional reading of at least three other dystopian novels recommended by the English department;
- Completed some additional research, using the material on Google Classroom (**EEK37gn**) as a starting point;
- Decided upon their preferred theme and comparison novel.

It is also a requirement that each pupil should read and research around each of the two set texts for examination before beginning their A2 studies in September:

- *King Lear* by William Shakespeare ([ISBN 978-0-435-19309-6](#));
- *The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale* by Geoffrey Chaucer ([ISBN 978-0-521-59507-0](#)).

We strongly encourage pupils to purchase their own copies of these class texts for making notes, and annotations. Many independent bookshops and online retailers have second hand copies to sell for a very reasonable price. However, if pupils wish to purchase the same version of the texts as the ones used in school, we recommend using the ISBNs above.

We hope this information will enable the pupils studying English Literature to A2 Level to be well prepared and ready for a challenging course ahead. It is worth emphasising that one of the aims of the CCEA Revised Specification for A Level is, 'to allow students to develop as discerning readers, capable of independent and critical research'. We hope that pupils will enjoy exploring the texts as much as we do.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the work of the English Department.

Kind regards,

Mrs E Graham

Head of English and Drama

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2 Valentine Road, Bangor, Co Down, Northern Ireland BT20 4TH

Tel: 028 9147 5340 Fax: 028 9147 5345

www.glenlola.collegiate.net info@glenlola.collegiate.bangor.ni.sch.uk

Headmaster: W E Thompson BSc MSc MEd PGCE PQH(NI)