

# CAREERS

## INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

English Language A Level



ST HILDA'S  
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# WHAT SKILLS WILL I LEARN IN THIS SUBJECT?

## Analytical and Critical Thinking

- You'll learn to **analyse how language works** — how words, grammar, and structure create meaning.
- You'll **explore different varieties of English** (regional, social, gender, historical, and global) and learn how to interpret their social significance.
- You'll develop the ability to **evaluate** arguments and evidence — a vital skill for higher education and professional life.
- You will explore how children develop language evaluating linguistic theorists.

## Research and Data Skills

- You'll conduct **language investigations** — collecting, analysing, and interpreting real data (spoken or written).
- You'll learn to **use evidence to support interpretations**, just like in social sciences.
- This helps you develop **independent research and project management** skills.



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# WHAT SKILLS WILL I LEARN IN THIS SUBJECT?

## Communication Skills

- You'll become more **precise and effective in expressing ideas**, both in writing and speech.
- You'll learn how to **adapt your language for different audiences and purposes** — e.g. formal vs. informal, persuasive vs. informative.
- You'll gain confidence in **presenting and debating ideas** clearly and convincingly.

## Writing and Composition

- You'll practise **creative and original writing** (like articles, speeches, or short stories) and **analytical essays**.
- You'll learn how to **plan, structure, and edit** your work to achieve clarity, tone, and impact.
- You'll understand **stylistic choices** and how writers use them to shape meaning and influence readers.



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Studying A-Level English Language develops crucial transferable skills like critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and strong written and oral communication. These skills are valuable for a wide range of university degrees, such as Law, Journalism, or Linguistics, and are in high demand for careers in fields like marketing, publishing, teaching, and tech roles, including those involving speech recognition and language models.

English Language is considered a "facilitating subject" and can be excellent preparation for a wide variety of degree subjects, including Journalism, Law, Psychology, and Linguistics.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Here are a few of the many careers that English Language A Level can support...

**Speech and language therapist** – investigating language patterns to support people with communication difficulties.

**Law:** Paralegal or as a stepping stone to a law degree.

**Forensic linguist** – analysing written or spoken evidence for legal cases.

**Data analyst (language-based)** – working with qualitative data such as survey responses or transcripts.

**Teacher / lecturer** – particularly in English, linguistics, or communication studies.

**A career in publishing or marketing**

**Journalist:** Reporting on events for news outlets.

**Content writer/copywriter:** Creating written material for websites, advertising, and marketing.

**Social media manager:** using audience research to shape messages that resonate with target demographics.



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# WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

If you are interested in how English Language A Level may support your career route, speak to a member of the English Department.

Have a look at the English and Media Centre website for further information about where English Language studies can take you. <https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/blog/why-study-english-language-or-linguistics-at-a-level-and-beyond/>



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