

English Intent statements

Intent

Our curriculum seeks to develop students to become confident and empathetic communicators. Through fostering a love of literature, we hope to spark a continuing curiosity about the world, and encourage critical thinking and ongoing creativity. We want to support our students to be independent and resilient young people, regardless of their starting point, so that they are equipped with the knowledge and skills to succeed throughout their lives.

Goal for every student

Students at KS3 will study a range of thematic units that are based around a key text. A balance of reading and writing lessons will develop key literacy and analytical skills which are strengthened and built on as the students encounter more challenging texts each year. As such, our curriculum operates as a progression model, returning and building on concepts introduced in Y7. Through our units, we seek to expose students to variety in literature, and introducing them to knowledge that will be valuable and relevant to their lives as well as preparing them for external exams at KS4 and 5. Key strands running through our curriculum are: power and justice (democracy, dictatorship, politics), morality (identity, using your voice, communication) and discovery (exploring literary genres such as tragedy, the Gothic and Romanticism).

Each year, students will experience non-fiction texts, fiction extracts, whole texts, and texts from a range of time periods and writers.

At KS4 and KS5, students study for external qualifications following the syllabus set out by the exam board. Students continue to develop their communication skills, through essay writing and literary analysis and through sharpening their own writing skills.

Implemented pace

The students will be broadly looking at a topic every half term under the themes below.

	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3	Cycle 4	Cycle 5	Cycle 6
Y7	Greek Myths	Villains	Romantic Poetry	Oliver Twist	Social Morality	Fantasy Fiction
Y8	Powerful Voices Poetry	Crime Fiction	Animal Farm	Much Ado About Nothing	Environmental Issues	The Jungle Book
Y9	Dystopian Fiction	WW1 and Protest Poetry	Voice in Society	A View from the Bridge	The Gothic	The Tempest
Y10	Poetry	An Inspector Calls/ Pigeon English	Paper 1	Macbeth	Jekyll and Hyde/ Frankenstein	Unseen Poetry
Y11	Paper 2	Jekyll and Hyde/ Frankenstein	Revision	Revision	Revision	Revision

Impact

Students will be assessed and taught using the Talk 4 Writing process. Each GEM cycle will begin with key knowledge and context needed before students are with a Cold Task. Subsequent lessons will be tailored to fill gaps in students' knowledge and skills and extend their learning from the Cold Task. The final unit assessment will be a Hot Task, where students are assessed for their independent work. Assessments will be balanced across a year between writing and reading skills. Our assessments will be moderated regularly in JPD sessions and faculty meetings and units adapted and updated following student and staff voice.