



Key Stage 3 English

Introduction

The overarching aim for English at Key Stage 3 is to promote high standards of language and literacy, by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written language. It also aims to develop their love of literature through a programme of regular reading for enjoyment.

Year 7

Autumn Term: Reading Focus	Spring Term: Speaking and Listening Focus	Summer Term: Writing Focus
<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils will read a range of writers from the literary heritage, including Shakespeare, but also contemporary writers from around the world. They engage with writers' techniques and build upon skills learned at primary school. By the end of the term, pupils will have planned and completed a reading assessment on the text that they have studied in class. • Pupils begin the Accelerated Reader programme in Year 7, for which the library offers a peaceful retreat during lesson time. • To consolidate class work, Year 7 are given the opportunity to engage in an exciting and stimulating way, with Charles Dickens, during a trip. 	<p>Speaking and Listening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are given the opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills throughout the year. During the spring term, they are introduced to the study of the media and work on advertising, in order to produce and pitch their own product. • Pupils also work on their presentational skills, through group work based on role-plays created during the study of Shakespeare's <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>. • In order to enable all pupils to access Shakespeare's work, Year 7 are taken to the Globe Theatre. They take a tour of the theatre and work with a professional actor during a workshop. 	<p>Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils produce different forms of writing based on poetry – creative and analytic - at the beginning of the summer term. Pupils write their own poems linked to various themes. • During the second half of the summer term, pupils focus on a play, ranging from Gillian Cross', <i>The Demon Headmaster</i>, to Phillip Pullman's <i>Northern Lights</i>. They practise writing from the point of view of different characters, which leads onto their final assessment of the year. • All Year 7 pupils embark on a weekly literacy programme, from the first week in September, which continues until the end of Year 9, and which is designed to promote the craft of clear, accurate, effective writing.



Year 8

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils begin the year studying a reading unit, which is designed to improve their ability to explore a range of writers' techniques. Pupils look at a range of authors such as Michael Morpurgo, Louis Sachar and Mark Haddon. • Pupils continue to develop reading skills through their weekly Accelerated Reader lessons, in which they are tested for content and vocabulary. They are given clear targets to encourage independent reading. 	<p>Speaking and Listening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the spring term, pupils embark on the study of Shakespeare's <i>A Merchant of Venice</i>. Pupils build upon skills from Year 7 and begin to look at writers' intentions. Hot seating, debates and role play are used to engage pupils with this challenging text. • Pupils explore and engage with poetry from different cultures, enabling them to take ownership and identify with an assortment of poems and poetic voices. • Pupils have the opportunity to create and perform their poems to a panel of judges. 	<p>Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can focus on travel writing, during which they experiment with different styles: writing to <i>inform</i>; writing to <i>explain</i>; and writing to <i>describe</i>. • Or, pupils will focus on crime and unsolved mystery stories, in which they explore short stories and use their skills of inference to solve an assortment of hidden secrets through a variety of texts. • All Year 8 pupils continue the weekly literacy programme they began in Year 7, which continues until the end of Year 9, and which is designed to promote clear, accurate, effective writing.



Year 9

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<p>Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To begin the year, pupils are set challenging texts to study, including <i>1984</i> and <i>'Mr Pip'</i>, which leads them to explore the character of Mrs Havisham from Charles Dickens' <i>Great Expectations</i>. • Pupils focus on studying a range of writers' techniques and language, before utilising them in their own work. • All Year 9 pupils complete the weekly literacy programme, which began in the first week of Year 7. This is designed to promote the clear, accurate, effective writing required for GCSE work. 	<p>Reading Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils prepare for their end-of-year examinations by studying war poetry, often with the chance to re-create the trenches in the classroom. Pupils also use this time to create and take part in a poetry slam in front of a panel of judges. • Pupils are asked to analyze the form, structure and language of several poems, with the end result being to compare these techniques in two different poems. • Pupils develop their structure of written essays using 'Point, Evidence, Analysis and Link' (PEAL) 	<p>Speaking and Listening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the Summer Term, pupils study Shakespeare's most famous play <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>. Role play and drama activities are linked to the play, as is the use of self and peer assessment. • To end the year, pupils study a media unit. This involves creating and filming their own advertisement, before persuading their audience to buy their product as part of an Apprentice-style presentation.