

## English

The KS3 curriculum is designed so that all GCSE English Language and Literature Assessment Objectives are developed and revisited throughout the 2-year course. Texts have been selected for each year of study based on a gradual increase in challenge and to ensure that pupils are developing a critical approach to their study and the world around them. Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing skills are distributed evenly throughout each year.

### Year 7

During Year 7, pupils develop their reading skills of inference and analysing writers' methods, comparison and evaluation through studying a variety of texts spanning different genres and cultural and historical contexts. These texts have been chosen in order to gradually increase challenge and ensure engagement.

The texts include:

- **An anthology of classical literary extracts**
- ***Beowulf***
- ***Romeo and Juliet***
- ***Frankenstein/ A Monster Calls***

In partnership with these reading skills, pupils practise and develop their writing skills by emulating the writer's methods they are studying and the types of writing which include:

- **Producing a story with a message**
- **Making character and plot choices to affect a reader**
- **Choosing vocabulary based on connotations**
- **Using basic features of rhetoric**

### Year 8

The Year 8 curriculum continues to consolidate and develop all key skills, adding comparison and evaluation through the study of a variety of texts again which include:

- ***A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens**
- **A variety of poetry from WW1**
- **A variety of non-fiction texts**

Again, a variety of writing styles are re-visited and practised with a focus on ensuring pupils write accurately, expressively, with detail and using Standard English. Students will continue to establish a base of skills and knowledge that will be built upon in Year 9. *A Christmas Carol* is a text that students will be examined on at GCSE; students will be required to consider the writer's purpose, their craft and the influence of context. Our War Poetry Unit will ensure that students are knowledgeable about the context of conflict through the ages

and develop the analytical skills to be successful readers and writers. Finally, students will be studying a range of quality literary non-fiction texts.

## **Year 9**

The Year 9 curriculum acts as a bridging unit to the study of GCSE English Language and Literature and incorporates the study of *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell and *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (GCSE text). This allows the pupils sufficient curriculum time to thoroughly engage with these texts as whole constructs of literature. During their study of *Blood Brothers* students will focus on the context of class and inequality and will engage with the study of modern (Twentieth Century) dramatic techniques which will support their reading of *An Inspector Calls* in Year 10. *Macbeth* is a text which students will be examined on in Year 11 and studying this in Year 9 gives students ample time in which to hone their writing skills around this topic and ensure they have a strong and solid knowledge base. Further to this, students this, at the end of the Year 9 pupils will also study how to construct narrative and descriptive writing.

## **Extra-Curricular**

Weekly extracurricular activities in English include Debate Club, Homework Club, Aiming for Grade 9 GCSE Club and rehearsals for the end of year Shakespeare performance. To further enhance the curriculum, throughout each year educational theatre visits, studio tours, and cultural development trips are offered to pupils.