

ENGLISH

KS3 Curriculum

What does this course involve at Key Stage 3?

Building the skills required for GCSE through a wide variety of literature. This will provide students with exposure to different genres whilst opening up opportunities to explore different cultures, values, themes and ideas. Students will also learn about different historical contexts and be able to make connections between the books, plays and poems studied and experiences and concepts which relate to their own life and experience.

What do you need to be successful in this course?

To be able to read, understand and analyse a variety of texts. To form opinions and be able to express and justify those opinions. Students will need to develop a good understanding of literary devices in order to produce their own piece of creative writing. Students will need to develop their written work in order to express themselves clearly and produce responses to questions which demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively. Students will be required to gain a good understanding of the wider world and make connections between text, task and context.

Year 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 19th century Literature – The Monkey’s Paw and a variety of non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts.• My Swordhand is Singing/Of Mice and Men – the exploration of cultural themes.• Year 7 Poetry – a range of poetry which deal with growing up, loss, relationships and modern day issues.• Fat Boy Swim/Wonder – Modern text with underlying themes of bullying and resilience. Fast Track will study Great Expectations in order to develop an appreciation of the work of Dickens.
Year 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 19 Century Literature – Dickens. Extracts from a variety of Dickens’ works supported with non-fiction and literary non-fiction exploring themes of poverty, education and political issues.• Frozen in Time/Brave New World – study of a modern novel – Exploration of a different genre.• Shakespeare Extracts – An introduction to the historical and social context of Shakespearean times and an introduction to the language of Shakespeare.• War Poetry – Introduction to conflict poetry – exploring both modern and historical conflict.

KS4 Curriculum

Students will study the following for Literature: Romeo and Juliet by Shakespeare (20% of the total GCSE Literature mark); A Christmas Carol (20% of the total GCSE Literature mark); DNA – a play by Denis Kelly (20% of the total GCSE Literature mark); 15 poems with the common themes of Love and Relationships or Power and Conflict as well as the skills to tackle previously unseen poetry in the exam (40% of the total GCSE Literature mark).

Students will study the following for Language: skills to tackle the analysis of language and how literary devices are used to create meaning and effect; summary, structure, evaluation and the comparison of writers’ perspectives. (50% of the total GCSE Language mark). Students will also focus on creative writing skills (50% of the total GCSE Language mark).

Students are also awarded a separate mark for a Speaking and Listening Assessment. This will be a pass, merit, or distinction. The texts studied are diverse and varied from nineteenth century texts to contemporary works. Students study a variety of fiction, non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts since they will be tested on these in both their English Language and English Literature GCSE examinations.

