

Year 7 - English

Curriculum Intent	Our Year 7 English curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity, build confidence, and develop a rich foundation of reading and writing skills. Across the year, students are introduced to a wide range of text types, voices, and purposes, helping them grow as critical readers and thoughtful writers. We begin the year with a novel study of <i>Once</i> by Morris Gleitzman, a powerful and accessible text that introduces students to character-driven storytelling, narrative voice, and historical context. This develops empathy and inference skills while building stamina for longer reading. Next, students become reporters and researchers in our Journalistic Writing unit, learning how to analyse news stories and craft their own with clarity and purpose. This teaches them how to write with structure, precision, and awareness of audience. In <i>Stories Under the Microscope</i>, students dive into short fiction extracts, zooming in on the tools and techniques authors use to hook readers. This analytical lens is then flipped in <i>Authors in Action</i>, where they become the writers—experimenting with structure, setting, description, and voice to create their own compelling stories. In the summer term, students explore the power of language and emotion in an Introduction to Poetry—learning to appreciate rhythm, sound, and imagery while expressing their own ideas in verse. Finally, the year ends with a <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>, where students learn where students learn how the Elizabethan era influenced Shakespeare and how he uses humour, misunderstandings and character relationships to explore themes of love and deception. Throughout the year, students develop a strong command of both analytical and creative writing. They practise writing to inform, describe, persuade, and entertain, while reading texts from a variety of genres, cultures, and time periods. Grammar, vocabulary, and spoken language skills are woven through all units to ensure well-rounded literacy development.					
Term	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
Scheme	<i>Once</i> by Morris Gleitzman	Journalistic Writing	<i>Stories Under the Microscope</i>	Author in Action	Introduction to Poetry	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
Knowledge	• Narrative plot, characterisation and themes in the novel. • Historical context and social issues relating to the Holocaust. • Authorial intentions	• Format and structure of different kinds of journalistic writing. • Language devices and rhetorical devices. • Sentence structures.	• Story-writing strategies. • Language and structure devices. • Introduction to genre. • Grammatical structures and choices.	• Story-writing strategies. • Language and structure devices. • Introduction to genre. • Grammatical structures and choices.	• Poetic devices and the poetic form • Figurative devices • Authorial intent • Contextual information • Analytical skills	• Plot, characterisation and themes in the play • Historical and social issues • Authorial intent

Skills	• Reading for meaning and inference. • Exploring themes. • Analysing writers' intentions.	• Writing to persuade or argue. • Writing to inform. • Crafting language for effect.	• Reading for meaning and inference. • Analysis.	• Grammar • Spelling • Crafting writing for effect • Descriptive writing • Narrative writing	• Reading for meaning and inference • Analysis	• Reading for meaning and inference • Analysis of language and structure • Exploring themes
Assessments	• 2 x Mastery Application Tasks: Exploring the significance of key themes in the novel. • 1 x Mastery Recall Test.	• 1 x MAT analysing language choices. • 1 x MAT crafting an article. • 1 x Mastery Recall Test.	• 2 x MATs: analysing language and structure choices. • 1 x Mastery Recall Test.	• 2 x MATs: story writing. • 1 x Mastery Recall Test.	• 2 x MATs: poetry analysis. • 1 x Mastery Recall Test.	• 1 x MAT analysing language and structure • 1 x MAT exploring a theme in the play • 1 x Mastery Recall Test
Curiosity	• Read another novel set during war. • Research Morris Gleitzman. • Visit the Imperial War Museum. • Research Holocaust Memorial Day.	• Read articles online and identify the authorial intent. • Submit an article or letter to a local newspaper. • Write an article about an event you have been to this half term.	• Use the school library to explore different genres and styles of fiction. • Read the full version of extracts read in school. • Complete analysis of your favourite writer's language.	• Rewrite one of last half-term's stories but so it fits a different genre. • Craft an alternative ending to a story you have read. • Emulate the writing style of your favourite author.	• Write your own poetry about an issue young people need to know about. • Write a poem to celebrate a hero. • Find a poem online and analyse it.	• Read / research about the time the play was set • Read / research about the author William Shakespeare • Read another play by William Shakespeare