

English - Year 8

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topics	Class Reader - reading a novel	Animal Rights - Non-fiction reading, writing and spoken language	Imaginative Writing - Fiction reading and writing	World Poetry - studying a selection of poems from other cultures	Talent TV - Non-fiction reading and writing	Language Development
Assessment	End of unit written assessment: analysis of an extract	End of unit written assessment: analysis of an extract	End of unit written assessment: a creative writing task	End of unit assessment: analysis and comparison of two poems	End of unit written assessment: non-fiction writing tasks	Teacher Assessment

Building on Prior Learning	English builds knowledge by teaching and then revisiting crucial skills linked to reading, writing and spoken language. Prior learning and knowledge is addressed and recapped frequently as schemes of work progress or when a new one is started.
Links with other subjects	The department has close links with humanities, especially History and Geography. Understanding context (social, political, geographical and historical) is extremely important when studying poems and texts in Year 8, such as 'Animal Farm', 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' and World Poetry. There are also links to PSHE, especially when considering the Animal Rights and World Poetry Units: these have been designed to encourage students to consider their own moral and social responsibilities. There are explicit links with Music and Drama, especially considering performance poetry and theatrical representations of texts.
Extracurricular opportunities	There are opportunities to explore texts through drama within the Year 8 curriculum. Students are encouraged to take part in national writing competitions. Students are regularly encouraged to read for pleasure.
A successful learner in this subject will demonstrate	A successful English student will be constantly developing their ability to read for meaning, such as exploring a writer's craft and reader response, as well as probing subtext. Students will be able to demonstrate their ability to develop their own writing skills, looking to develop vocabulary and showcase the ability to vary punctuation and sentence structures.
Impact on personal development	English will enable students to build confidence through discussion and spoken language. It will also allow students to develop crucial life skills such as resilience, co-operation, building arguments and adapting vocabulary for audience and purpose. Through reading and writing, students should be equipped with appropriate literacy skills designed for life beyond education. We also hope to encourage independent thinking skills and problem solving.



Ways to support student learning in this subject

- Encourage students to read an array of fiction genres independently: crime, mystery, fantasy, drama, gothic, dystopian.
- Encourage students to read a variety of non-fiction texts: biographies, autobiographies, newspapers, articles, leaflets, speeches, guides, informative texts.
- Encourage students to write for pleasure.
- Encourage students to build a 'word bank' - document new vocabulary learned throughout the year and frequently attempt to use this in day-to-day conversation.
- Encourage students to complete their homework.
- Use BBC Bitesize to practise skills relating to spelling, punctuation and grammar.