

KS3 English Curriculum

Students cover a broad range of literary and non-fiction texts across themed years at Key Stage 3, including several Shakespeare plays, modern drama and a range of gripping novels.

Year 7

THEME: Conflict

Students study 'Private Peaceful' as their main reader, alongside a selection of War Poetry and non-fiction texts from the time of WW1 and 2. They also have the chance to explore what it takes to craft their own propaganda. Students read David Grant's modern drama text 'Angels' and use this as a springboard to a range of literacy work and participate in a lively debate. Students are encouraged to develop a love of poetry beyond the topic of conflict as part of the 'Poetry By Heart' competition. An additional text is studied in the final term of the year. Students sit an end of year exam on one of the texts studied.

Year 8

THEME: Complexities of Relationships

The course commences with some lively Shakespeare study centred around 'Much Ado About Nothing' with the challenging class reader 'Starseeker' to follow. Students also explore how the media attracts various audiences and produce their own pitch, developing their Speaking and Listening skills. A range of challenging poetry is also studied and an additional text is covered in the final term of the year. Students sit an end of year exam on one of the texts studied.

Year 9

THEME: Civil Rights, Prejudices and Respect

Students start the year by reading a riveting different cultures text, either 'Of Mice and Men' or 'To Kill A Mockingbird', prompting lively discussions about vitally important issues and presenting a chance to prepare for the demanding analytical requirements of the new GCSEs. They then dive headlong into Shakespeare's 'Othello', as well as touching on a range of additional texts such as different cultures poetry including Maya Angelou, key civil rights speeches from the likes of Martin Luther King and non-fiction reportage on civil rights. An additional text is studied in the final term of the year. Students sit an end of year exam on one of the texts studied.